THE HISTORY OF THE Revolution in *Portugal*, In the Year, 1640.

Or, An Account of their

Revolt from *Spain*,

And ſetting the Crown on the Head of

Don John of *Braganza*,

Father to *Don Pedro*, the Preſent King, and *Catharine* Queen Dowager of *England*.

Written in *French* by the excellent Pen of the Abbot *Vertat*, (Author of the Hiſtory of the Revolution in *Sweden*.) And done into *Engliſh*.

LONDON,

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BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

The Introduction.

AMong the Principal Events of this laſt Age, none deſerves our Attention more than the Revolt of *Portugal*, in the Year One Thouſand Six Hundred and Forty. The Unanimity, Zeal, and Secrecy with which this Conſpiracy was carried on for a long time, between Perſons of different Ages, Sexes, and Qualities; the Ardour for recovering their Liberties, which animated them to encounter Difficulties, in appearance inſuperable; and laſtly,

the compleat Succeſs, and the little Blood loſt in the execution of this mighty Enterprize, makes it truly admirable and ſurpriſing.

This ſmall Fragment, as it were torn from the general Hiſtory of the Times, was written in *French* not very long ſince as an Eſſay by the Abbot *Vertat*, ſince Author of the *Hiſtory of the Revolutions of Sweden*; both which Pieces have been received with the Applauſe of the Publick. The Materials out of which he has compiled this ſmall Volume, are for the moſt part * Printed Accounts, Journals, Gazettes, and

* *Portugal reſtaurado de Menezes Caet. Paſſarel. Luſitania reparata de Macedo, Mercure François de Renaudot Siry, et Recueil de Relations extraordinaires.*

the Relations of Persons who were at *Lisbon* when this *Drama* was acted. Most of these are indeed ill enough writ, but have receiv'd a new Life and Lustre since they have been touch'd by his Incomparable Pen. I might, in this place, commend the Vivacity, Politeness, and Fidelity with which this little Piece is writ; but I shall rather chuse to give the Reader a view of the State of Affairs which lead to that Revolution, which is the Subject of it.

Portugal was first erected in the Year 1139. into a Kingdom by *Alphonso* I. who, after he had defeated the *Moors*, refused to pay that Homage to *Spain* which his Father had done. After him *Alphonso* III his Great Grandson, had *Algarva* given him

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in Dowry with the Princess *Beatrix*, Daughter to *Alphonso* the Tenth King of *Castile*, which still gives a Title to the Heir Apparent of the Crown. Thus *Portugal* continued an Independant Kingdom, Governed by its own Princes, till the Brave *Sebastian* unfortunately perished in the Battel of *Alcazar*, *Aug.* 4. 1578. without leaving any Issue behind him. The Cardinal *Dom Henry*, his Great Uncle, succeeded to the Throne, whose Reign lasted but sixteen Months. After his Death, divers Princes and Princesses pretended to the Crown. *Catharine*, Dutchess of *Braganza*, *Philip* the Second, King of *Spain*, the Duke of *Parma*, the Duke of *Savoy*, and *Dom Antonio*, Grand Prior of *Crete*, were all descended

ſcended from *Dom Emanuel*, Father of the Cardinal King, but in different Degrees: There was only the Dutcheſs of *Braganza*, and the K. of *Spain* in the ſame Degree and neareſt the Crown. *Catharine* was Daughter to the Infant *Edward*, and *Philip* was Son to the Empreſs *Elizabeth*, both Children to *Dom Emanuel*. The Grand Prior was only Natural Son to the Infant *Dom Lewis*, Second Son of *Dom Emanuel*, but his Party gave out, there was a ſecret Marriage between that Prince and his Mother. *Catharine de Medicis*, Queen of *France* ſent a Deputation to the States, to repreſent her Title as deſcended from *Alphonſo* III. King of *Portugal*, and *Maud* Counteſs of *Bolonia*. The Pope too put in, and drew

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an Advantage from King *Henry*'s dying a Cardinal; but all these Pretensions were little considered. All were agreed, and the most able Lawyers had determined, that the apparent Right was in the Dutchess of *Braganza*, not only because the Laws of the Kingdom exclude Foreigners from succeeding to the Crown; but likewise by the Right of Lineal Descent, as Daughter of the Infant *Edward*, whose Title could not be disputed by the Empress *Elizabeth* his Sister, Mother to the King of *Spain*. And doubtless, this Dutchess would have been acknowledged as Queen of *Portugal*, had she had the Power necessary to assert her Rightful Pretensions.

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THE HISTORY OF THE Revolution IN *PORTUGAL*, In the Year 1640.

THE *Spaniards* had been near * Threescore Years in Possession of the Crown of *Portugal*. *Philip* the Second, King of *Spain*, after the

* Since the Year 1581.

Death of *Henry* Cardinal-King, had forced it from the House of *Braganza*, by the help of a Formidable Army, the best Argument to support a bad Title. This Kingdom was by degrees become a Province of *Spain*, and the *Portuguese* seem'd for ever to despair of shaking off their Chains. The Great Men did not dare to appear in a Splendor suitable to their Rank, or demand a due Respect, for fear of raising Jealousies in the *Spanish* Ministers, at a time when the Consideration of a man's Wealth, Family, or Merit, were enough to render him suspected, and expose him to ill Usage. The Gentry were banish'd to their Country Seats, and the People oppress'd with Excessive Taxes. It

It was a Maxim with the *Conde* Duke *d' Olivarez*, First Minister to *Philip* the Fourth King of *Spain*, That *New Conquests ought to be exhausted.* He knew very well the Ancient and Natural Antipathy of these Neighbouring Nations must needs render the *Spanish* Government hateful to the *Portuguese*; and that Nation could never tamely see all Places in the State fill'd with Strangers, or Fellows of mean Extraction, whose only Merit was their entire Devotion to the Court. For this Reason he thought the best way to establish his Master's Power, was, To exclude the Nobility and Gentry from all Employs and Publick Trust, and by insensibly impoverishing the Peo-

ple, to leave them incapable of attempting any Alteration in the State. Besides this, He judged it necessary to drain the Kingdom of the Flower of their Youth, and the best who could bear Arms, and to employ them in Foreign Wars, to prevent such Dangerous People from disturbing the Repose of the Government.

This Conduct, which possibly might have succeeded, if it had been carried to a certain pitch; being strained too high, had a quite contrary effect, which proceeded partly from the Distress in which the Court was at that time, and partly from the Temper then of the First Minister, naturally stiff and inflexible.

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They began now to diſregard all Meaſures with *Portugal*, diſdaining to uſe the ordinary Pretences for raiſing Money on a People. In ſhort, they ſeem'd more to exact a Contribution in an Enemy's Country, than a juſt Impoſition on Subjects. The *Portugueſe* having nothing more to loſe, and deſpairing to ſee an end or mitigation of their Miſery, as long as they continued in their preſent condition, began now to think of freeing themſelves from the Severity of their cruel Maſters, which they had ever eſteem'd Uſurpers, and intolerable Tyrants.

Margaret, Ducheſs of *Mantua*, govern'd *Portugal* at that time in Quality of Vice-Queen; but

this was but a glittering Title which the Court has given to a very limited Power. The secret Counsels, and the great Management of Affairs, were entrusted in the Hands of *Moguel Vasconcellos*, a *Portuguese*, who had the Character of Secretary of State to the Vice-Queen, but was indeed an Absolute and Independent Minister.

This Man receiv'd his Orders immediately from the *Conde* Duke, whose Creature he was, with whom he had ingratiated, and made himself necessary by a singular Art he had of drawing perpetually considerable Sums out of *Portugal*; and an intrieguing Wit, which enabl'd him to accomplish his private Designs. He had the

the Art of raiſing Feuds and Animoſities among the Great Men of the Kingdom, which He would craftily foment by his Favour, and affected Diſtinctions, by which he was ſure to pleaſe and engage thoſe who received them, and to create Spite and Envy in the reſt. While theſe Diviſions continued, he concluded all was ſafe, perſuading himſelf the contending Parties would be wholly employ'd in ſatisfying their Reſentments, and not have leiſure to attempt any thing againſt the ſetled Government.

There was no Man in *Portugal* beſides the Duke of *Braganza*, who could give the *Spaniards* the leaſt Diſquiet. This Prince was of a mild and ſweet Tem-

per, a Lover of Ease; more a Man of Good Sense, than Quickness of Wit. In Business he went to the main Point; and easily made himself Master of what he apply'd himself to; but seldom cared for Application. Duke *Theodosius* his Father, a Hot and Violent Man, had labour'd to infuse into him an Hereditary Hate to the *Spaniards*, whom he look't on as Usurpers of a Crown which belong'd to his Family, and us'd all possible means to fill his Breast with the Ambition of regaining his Right, and all the Heat and Courage which is necessary for so Great and Hazardous an Enterprize.

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Dom John had indeed imbib'd the Sentiments of his Father, not to ſo high a Degree, but in ſuch a Manner as ſuited with his calm and moderate Temper. He hated the *Spaniards*, but not ſo as to be in pain to revenge the Injury. He had Ambition, and did not deſpair of re-aſcending the Throne of his Anceſtors; but in this He did not ſhew ſo much Impatience as Duke *Theodoſius* had done; He contented himſelf with a diſtant Proſpect of a Crown, without hazarding the Repoſe of his Life, and a certain Fortune, which was already the greateſt that could conſiſt with the Condition of a Subject.

In short, it is most certain, if he had been precisely what Duke *Theodosius* wish'd him, he had been less fit to obtain what he design'd him for. The *Conde* Duke observ'd him with so strict an Eye, that if his manner of Living had not been entirely the Effect of his Natural Inclination, that vigilant Minister would have soon descry'd it; and this must have been fatal to his Ease and Fortune. The Court of *Spain* would never have entrusted him with so large a Power, or suffer'd him to lead an unmolested Life in the Heart of his Country.

The most refin'd Politicks could never have taught so wise a Conduct towards the *Spaniards*, as

as the Bent of his Genius, His Birth, his Fortunes, his Title to the Crown; but by the Laws of Politicks it is ever a Crime to be Formidable. This he knew well enough, and saw plainly there was but one way for him to take: and this his Inclination, as well as Reason, led him to. There was but one way to lessen his Offence, and that was to render himself less fear'd. To this end he concern'd himself in no manner of Business, and seem'd wholly bent on his Diversion and Pleasure. He acted very well this Part; and at *Villavveiosa*, the Ordinary Residence of the Dukes of *Braganza*, there was nothing but Hunting-Matches, Entertainments; and all those about him

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were a sort of People proper to make the Pleasures of a Delicious Country relish. In short; Nature and Fortune seem'd to conspire; one to give him all the Qualities proper for the present State of Affairs; and the other to dispose the State of Affairs to display his Natural Qualities.

These did not shine enough to give the *Spaniards* grounds to fear he would attempt to make himself King; but they appear'd solid enough for the *Portugueſe* to hope for a mild and easy Government of themselves, should they re-place him on the Throne of his Ancestors.

His Conduct did not give the least Jealousy, till a certain Accident

cident alarm'd the First Minister.

The People of *Evora* being oppress'd with new Taxes, and reduc'd to Despair, rose; and, in the Heat of the Tumult, some of their Leaders began to exclaim against the *Spanish* Tyranny, and declare publickly for the House of *Braganza*. This Accident made the Court sensible how much they had mistaken their Interest, in leaving so Rich and Potent a Family, whose Rights to the Crown were so clear, in the midst of a Conquer'd Country.

For this Consideration the Council of *Spain* resolv'd to secure the Duke of *Braganza*, or at least to send him out of *Portugal*.

tugal. In the first place they offer'd him the Government of *Milan*; which he refus'd, pretending his frequent Indisposition; That he had not a sufficient Knowledge of the Affairs of *Italy*, to acquit himself in a Post of so much Difficulty and Weight.

The Minister seem'd to approve his Reasons, but look'd out for some other means to draw him to Court. The King's Marching to Suppress the Revolt in *Catalonia*, was the Matter which afforded the next Pretence. Upon this Occasion he writes to him *to come at the Head of the Nobility of his Country, to join the Troops of* Castile *in so glorious an Expedition, where the King Com-*

manded

manded in Perſon. But the Duke, who had a juſt Suſpicion of whatever came from Court, ſoon diſcover'd this Artifice, and excus'd himſelf from this Attendance; pretending, That *His Birth and Quality oblig'd him to an extraordinary Expence, and his Fortunes were not in a condition to ſupport it.*

France and *Spain* were at that time engag'd in a War, and the *French* Fleet had been off the Coaſts of *Portugal*; and this Occaſion gave that Miniſter a fair Colour to cover his Deſign. It was neceſſary to appoint ſome General to Command the Forces which were deſign'd for the Defence of the Coaſts, and preventing the *French* from making a Deſcent. He ſent the Duke there-

therefore a Commiſſion for this purpoſe, which was ſo fill'd with Compliments, and intruſted him with ſo unlimited a Power to encreaſe or make alteration in all Gariſons, and diſpoſe of Veſſels in the Ports at his Diſcretion, that by ſo abſolute a Confidence he ſeem'd to deliver the whole Kingdom into his hands. But this fair Appearance only conceal'd the Snare; and at the ſame time he ſent ſecret Orders to *Dom Lopez Ozono*, who Commanded the *Spaniſh* Fleet, to put into one of the Ports, near where the Duke ſhould happen to be, upon pretence of being driven in by Streſs of Weather, and then to invite him to ſome Entertainment, and when he was Aboard to bring him.

him into *Spain*. But Fate order'd Matters quite otherwise; and the *Spaniſh* Admiral being ſurpriz'd with a Tempeſt, loſt ſeveral of his Ships; and the reſt were ſo diſpers'd, that he could not Land with them in *Portugal*.

The ill Succeſs of this Project did not diſmay the *Conde* Duke; he impured the Duke of *Braganza*'s Eſcape wholly to Chance and Fortune, concluding, That all things muſt neceſſarily have anſwer'd his Deſires, if *Dom Lopez* had arriv'd in the Ports of that Kingdom according to his Inſtructions. And therefore he invents a new Trick, and writes to that Prince in the moſt obliging manner he could imagine, filling his Letter with the higheſt

Expreſſions of Confidence, as if he had been a Partner with himſelf in the Miniſtry and Government. In this Letter he complains of *the Misfortune of the Fleet, and how ſenſible he was of the Loſs they had ſuſtain'd, at a Time when the Enemies were ſo Formidable at Sea*; That being *unhappily depriv'd of the Naval Strength, which ſhould have guarded their Coaſts, the King wiſh'd he would take an exact Review of all the Forts and Harbours of that Kingdom, which might be expos'd to the Inſults of the* French. And with this he ſent an Order for Forty Thouſand Ducats for the defraying his Expences, and raiſing more Forces in caſe it ſhould be needful.

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At the ſame time the Governours of the Citadels, moſt of which were *Spaniards*, had ſecret Orders ſent to ſecure his Perſon, when a favourable Occaſion ſhould preſent, and ſend him into *Spain*.

The Duke of *Braganza* reflecting on theſe high Marks of Confidence; and how little agreeable this was to the uſual Conduct of that Miniſter, began to ſuſpect the Sincerity of his Intentions, which, in the end, caus'd the Author to fall into that Snare which he laid for another. The Prince therefore writes back to aſſure him, That *He accepted with abundance of Joy the Command which the King had given him*; That *He hoped by his Application, and Zeal*

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for his Service, he ſhould juſtify his Choice, and ſhew himſelf worthy of the Favour he had ſo graciouſly conferr'd on him.

And now having a nearer Proſpect than before of remounting the Throne of his Anceſtors, he made uſe of all the Power he was inveſted with to put his Friends into all Poſts and Employs where they might one day be uſeful to him. He expended the *Spaniſh* Moneys in making of New Creatures; and when he viſited the Forts, it was always with a great Attendance, which made them deſpair of ſeizing his Perſon.

The whole Court of *Spain* began to murmur that a Truſt of ſo high a nature ſhould be

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lodg'd in him, the King only being privy to the Reaſons of this Conduct. Every one began to rail at the *Conde* Duke, as Allied to the Houſe of *Braganza*, urging, That it was the laſt Imprudence to make a Perſon General of the Forces in *Portugal*, who had ſo great Pretenſions to the Crown of that Kingdom; That this was in effect to put him in a condition to aſſert his Title, and turn his Arms againſt his Lawful Soveraign. This ſerv'd only to confirm the King in his Reſolution, who approv'd the Deſign better when he found the People did not diſcern the Secret of it. In the mean time the Duke of *Braganza*, by virtue of his new Employment, travers'd

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all Parts of *Portugal*; in which Progreſs he laid the Foundations of his Reſtoration. His Equipage was Magnificent, and drew the Eyes of the People where-ever he came: He heard all who came to him with great Mildneſs and Sweetneſs of Temper: He kept the Soldiers from committing the leaſt Diſorder; frequently extoll'd the Officers, winning them by all the Recompences which were in his Power to beſtow. His free Deportment charm'd the Nobility; all whom he receiv'd with obliging Diſtinctions, according to their Merit and Quality; In ſhort, he diſpenſed his Favours where-ever he came, and won more by Hopes of future Benefits than preſent;

preſent; and all who were about him began to eſteem it the greateſt Happineſs could befal them, that ſo noble a Prince ſhould be reſtor'd to the Throne.

The Party who adhered to his Intereſt, omitted nothing which might conduce to eſtabliſh his Reputation. Among theſe, none labour'd more effectually than *Pinto Ribeuro*, Comptroller of his Houſhold, to ſet all Machines on work, and form a Scheme for the Advancement of his Maſter. This Man had all the Qualities proper for a Buſineſs of this nature; He was Active, Vigilant, had great Experience in Buſineſs, and a violent Paſſion for the Reſtoration of the Duke; doubtleſs flattering himſelf with

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the Hopes of having a large ſhare in the Miniſtry whenever he ſhould bring this to paſs. The Prince had in private aſſur'd him, That he would lay hold of any Fair occaſion to place himſelf in the Throne, but was reſolv'd not to hazard this at all Adventures, as a Man who had nothing to loſe; that he might manage the People, and Gain as many Creatures as he could, provided himſelf did not appear to have any ſhare in what he did.

Pinto had for a long time labour'd with great Induſtry to obſerve who were diſaffected, and to encreaſe the Number. For this purpoſe he privately rais'd Murmurs againſt the preſent

ſent Government, ſometimes railing againſt the Government with a great deal of Warmth, at other times with more Reſerve, according to the Character or Humour of the Perſons he was with. He would frequently remind People of Quality of the Honourable Poſts their Families had formerly enjoy'd when *Portugal* was govern'd by its Natural Princes. But nothing exaſperated the Nobility more, than the Summons which the King had ſent them to attend him into *Catalonia*. *Pinto* inveighed againſt this Expedition, repreſenting it as a *ſort of Baniſhment*; urging, That *they muſt not hope to return without great difficulties*; That *beſides a vaſt Expence, they*

must endure the hateful Insolence of the Spaniards; *That the Court of* Spain *had a private Interest to destroy the Bravest Men, or expose them in all Places where there was most Danger, and least Glory to be obtain'd.*

If he happened to be among Citizens or Merchants, he exclaim'd against the Injustice of the *Spaniards*, who had ruin'd *Lisbon* and the whole Country of *Portugal*, by transferring the Trade of the *Indies* to *Cadiz*; he entertain'd them with nothing else but Discourses of the extreme Misery they were reduc'd to by so Tyrannical a Government; extolling the *Hollanders* and *Catalonians*, who had nobly deliver'd themselves. In the last place,

place, he ſuggeſted to the Clergy how they had violated the Privileges and Immunities of the Church: That the moſt conſiderable Dignities and Benefices, which ought to be a Recompence to the Merit and Capacity of the *Portugueſe*, were become a Prey to Foreigners.

In Company of thoſe whom he knew to be diſaffected, he would ever turn his Diſcourſe to his Maſter's Humour and Manner of Living. Here he would complain of that Idle Life in which he ſeem'd to be buried, expreſſing his great Regret, that the only Perſon who was able to remedy their Grievances, ſhould ſhew ſo little Affection to his Country, or Concern for his Ho-

nour; and observing these Discourses to make an impression on them, he push'd Matters so far, as to flatter some with the Glorious Title of the Asserters of the Liberty of their Country, raising their indignation at the ill treatment of the *Spaniard*, and to give other Hopes of advancing their Fortunes by a Revolution.

In short, he manag'd the Temper of the People with so great Skill, that being well assur'd of Divers privately, he procur'd a Meeting of the Nobility, with the Archbishop of *Lisbon* at their Head.

This Prelate was descended of one of the best Houses † in that

† *D' Acugna.*

King-

Kingdom; was a Man of Learning, an able Statesman, and belov'd by the People, but hated by the *Spaniards*, whom he hated no less, because they had preferr'd the Archbishop of *Braga*, * a Creature of the Vice-queen, whom they had made President of the Chamber of *Opaco*, and given a share in the Administration of Affairs.

Dom Miguel d' Almeida was one of the most considerable Members of this Company. This was a venerable Old Gentleman, who had gain'd a mighty Esteem by his Worth: He plac'd his Glory in preferring the Interest of his Country to his Fortunes, and

* *Dom Sebastian de Mattos de Norognia.*

could not without Indignation ſee it enſlav'd by Uſurpers. He perſiſted in this ſenſe his whole Life with great Bravery and Reſolution, and neither the Advice of his Friends, or the Intreaties of his Relations could ever induce him to go to the Palace, or make his Court to the *Spaniſh* Miniſters. This Steddineſs in his Conduct had created ſome Jealouſy of him, and determin'd *Pinto* to pitch on him to make his Declaration to, being well aſſur'd he ſhould not hazard any thing in making a Confidence with a Man of ſuch a Character, and one who was able to bring ſo great a Number of the Nobility over to his Party.

Dom

Dom Antonio d' Almada, an intimate Friend to the Archbishop was there, and *Dom Lewis* his Son; *Dom Lewis d' Acugna*, Nephew to that Prelate, and married to the Daughter of *Dom Antonio d' Almada*, the Master of the Horse; *Mello*, *Dom George* his Brother; *Pedro Mendoza*, *Dom Rodrigo de Saa*, High Chamberlain, and divers Officers of the Royal Family, whose Places were become empty Titles, since *Portugal* had lost her Natural Kings.

At this Meeting the Archbishop, who was naturally Eloquent, display'd the calamitous State of that Kingdom; He represented to them, *How* Philip *the Second, to secure his Conquest, had destroy'd an infinite Number of*

the Nobility: That He had not spared the Church, witness the Famous Brief of Absolution * which he had obtain'd of the Pope for the Murther of Two thousand Priests and Religious persons, whom he had put to Death to secure his Usurpation: That since those Dismal Times, the Spaniards had not changed their Measures: That they had taken off a great many Worthy persons for no other Crime, but their Love to their Country: That no Man present had his Life or Estate secure to him: That the Great Men were excluded from the Government, destitute of Employ, and neglected: That the Church had been fill'd with a scandalous Clergy, since Vasconcel-

* Ceneſtagio.

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los *had beſtow'd Benefices as Rewards on his Creatures:* That *the People were oppreſs'd with Taxes; the Country wanted Hands to Till it, and the Cities were deſolate, being exhauſted by thoſe Forces which were ſent into* Catalonia: That *theſe Orders to Summon the Nobility under a Pretence of attending the King, was the laſt ſhift the Miniſter could uſe to take off the Remains of thoſe Gentlemen whom he conceiv'd might be an Obſtacle to his pernicious Deſigns:* That *the leaſt Misfortune which could befal them, muſt be a tedious Baniſhment, and they muſt wear away their Lives in the Heart of* Caſtile, *while new Colonies were poſſeſs'd of their Eſtates at Home:* That *for his part, in this deplorable ſtate of Things, he ſhould*

chuse to dye, rather than see the entire Ruin and Destruction of his Country, if he had not some Hopes of so many Worthy Persons there not met together to no purpose.

This Speech reviv'd in the Company the uneasy Memory of those Grievances they had so long labour'd under. Every one was earnest to give some Instances of the Cruelties of *Vasconcelos*; Some had lost their Estates by his Injustice, others had been turn'd out of their Hereditary Places and Governments to make room for his Creatures; divers of them had for a long time groan'd in Prison to satisfy the Jealousy of the *Spanish* Ministers; some were concern'd for the Loss

of

of their Fathers, Brothers, Friends detain'd at *Madrid*; or ſent into *Catalonia* as Hoſtages for the Fidelity of their Countrymen. In ſhort, there was no one in this publick Cauſe who had not ſome private Injury to revenge. The Expedition into *Catalonia* incens'd them, and rais'd their Indignation to the laſt degree. They ſaw plainly this did not proceed from any Neceſſity, which conſtrain'd the *Spaniards* to make uſe of their Aſſiſtance, but a deſign of that Court to ruin them by ſo long a March. Theſe Conſiderations, joyn'd with the Hopes of Revenging ſo many Affronts as they had receiv'd, determin'd them, and made them reſolve to take all proper Meaſures to throw-

throw off a Yoke which they found too heavy to bear; and being depriv'd of all Hopes of mitigating their unhappy Condition, they reproach'd their Patience as a Baseness and Meanness of Spirit, and unanimously agreed there was a necessity of driving out the *Spaniard*, but were divided what Form of Government they ought to prefer.

One part of the Company were for a Republick, like that of *Holland*; another part were inclin'd to have a King; and of this Number some propos'd the Duke of *Braganza*, others the Marquess *de Villareal*, and others the Duke *d' Aveiro*, all three Princes of the Royal Blood of *Portugal*, each delivering his Mind as his

his Fancy or Intereſt led him. But the Archbiſhop, who was devoted to the Houſe of *Braganza*, dextrouſly uſing the Authority of his Character, made a Remonſtrance, not without ſome Vehemence; alledging, That *the Choice of Government was not Arbitrary*: That *they could not in Conſcience break that Oath of Fidelity which they had taken to* Spain, *except it were to do Juſtice to the Rightful Heir of that Crown, which all the World knew was the Duke of* Braganza; *and therefore they muſt reſolve to acknowledge him as their King, or for ever remain under the Dominion of* Spain. In the next place he deſir'd them to reflect on *the Power, the great Wealth, and the vaſt Number of*

Vaſſals

Vassals of that Prince, on whom one Third of that Kingdom depended; urging, *They could never hope to drive out the* Spaniards, *unless they had him at their Head*; *and that to engage him in an affair of this nature, they must offer him the Crown, whose Right was indubitable, as being the first Prince of the Blood.* From thence he pass'd to his good Qualities, extolling his *Prudence, Wisdom*, and especially the *sweetness of his Temper*, and his *obliging Behaviour*. In short, he gave so happy a Turn to this Matter, they all declar'd for him as their King, and agreed, That nothing should be wanting that could engage him in this Design. Thus the Company broke up, having first agreed on the Time and Place

where

where they ſhould meet again, to conſider of the beſt Means to bring the Matter to a ſpeedy and ſucceſsful Iſſue.

Pinto ſeeing them thus diſpos'd in Favour of his Maſter, writ privately to him to come into the Neighbourhood of *Lisbon*, for the encouraging the Conſpirators by his Preſence, and taking preciſe Meaſures with them for the Execution of that Deſign. This crafty Man put in Motion all the Wheels in that Affair, without appearing to be any farther concern'd than a private Perſon, acted by a Zeal for the Publick Service. He ſeem'd to doubt whether his Maſter would enter into it, upon the Account of his Natural Averſion to all Hazard-

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ous Undertakings, which require Application and Attendance. He ſtarted ſome Difficulties, which ſerv'd only to remove all Suſpicion of any Underſtanding between him and his Maſter; and yet were ſuch as tended rather to excite their Ardour, than diſcourage them.

Upon the Advice which *Pinto* gave, the Duke ſome Days after left *Villa-viciosa*, and came to *Almada*, a Caſtle near *Lisbon*, under Colour of Viſiting the Forts of that Kingdom. His Equipage was very Magnificent, and he had a vaſt Train, compos'd of Men of Quality, and Officers of the Army; which more reſembl'd a King taking Poſſeſſion of his Kingdom, than of a Gover-

nour.

nour of a Province visiting the Places under his Care and Inspection. Being near *Lisbon*, he could not dispense with paying his Duty to the Vice-Queen. When he enter'd the Great Court of the Palace, all the Avenues were fill'd with an infinite number of People, who crowded to see him pass along, and most of the Nobility came to his House to wait on him. It was a general Holy-day throughout the Town, and all People were over-joy'd to see him; there seem'd only to want a Herald to proclaim him King, or Resolution enough in himself to put the Crown on his Head.

But this Prince was too wise, and had too much Experience

to

to trust so important a Concern to the Sallies of a fickle and inconstant Multitude; He very well understood the vast difference between those vain Shouts which the People soon quit, and those steddy Motions which are necessary to support an Enterprize of that nature. Thus after he had taken his Leave of the Vice-Queen, he retir'd to *Almada*, without going to *Braganza*-House, or passing through the City, to prevent making the *Spaniards* uneasy, who were already too much alarm'd at the Transports of the People.

Pinto did not fail to observe to his Friends the Fear and Caution which his Master us'd; urging, That they ought to improve

prove the opportunity of his ſtay at *Almada*, to break the Matter to him, and uſe ſome ſort of Violence to engage him to accept of the Crown, which was at this time abſolutely neceſſary for the publick Good. The Conſpirators approving this Advice, appointed him to obtain of his Maſter ſome favourable Occaſion for making this Propoſition: He accepted this Commiſſion without much difficulty, and the Duke of *Braganza* agreed to an Interview, on condition that only Three of the Conſpirators ſhould meet him, not judging it proper to explain himſelf to more.

So *Miguel d'Almeida*, *Antonio d'Almada*, and *Mendoza*, came to him

him that Night; and being introduc'd privately into his Closet, d'*Almada*, who spoke for the rest, máde a lively Representation of *the unhappy State of that Kingdom, where persons of all Conditions were expos'd to the Injustice and Cruelty of the* Castillians; adding, *That himself, with all his Greatness, was not secure from their Attempts: That He was too discerning a person not to observe the Industry which the prime Minister us'd to destroy him: That there was no other Refuge to escape his ill designs, except the Throne: That in order to put him into that, he had Commission to offer him the Services of a considerable Number of Persons of Rank, who would sacrifice their Lives and Fortunes with pleasure for his Interests,*

terests, and to deliver their Country from its insolent Masters.

In the next place he told him, *The Time of Charles the Fifth and* Philip *the Second were past, when the* Spaniards *were the Terror of Europe, and gave Laws to their Neighbours: That this Monarchy which had formerly conceiv'd such vast Designs, could now scarce preserve her ancient Territory, was attack'd, and often beat by the* French *and* Hollanders: That Catalonia *alone employ'd her utmost Strength*: That *she was destitute of Troops and Money, and govern'd by a weak Prince, who himself was govern'd by a Minister hateful to the Kingdom.* He wish'd him to consider *the Alliance and Protection which he might expect from those Princes in*

Europe,

Europe, *who were Eternal Enemies to the House of Austria*: That Holland *and* Catalonia *shew'd what Assistance he might expect from a great Minister*, * *whose mighty Genius seem'd bent to ruin that House*: That *the Sea open'd a way for receiving all necessary Supplies*. In short, That *the Kingdom being emptied of the* Castillian *Garisons, which the King had been forc'd to draw out of* Portugal, *to encrease his Army in* Catalonia, *he could never hope for a more favourable Juncture to assert his Right, and free his Country from Tyranny and Slavery*.

It may easily be thought this Discourse was very well relish'd

* The Cardinal *Richelieu*.

by

by the Duke of *Braganza*; but he with that Coldneſs, which was natural to him, ſo order'd the Expreſſions of his Reply to the Deputies, that he ſeem'd neither to leſſen or encreaſe their Hopes. He told them, That *he was of their Opinion*: That *the* Spaniards *had reduc'd the Kingdom to a Deplorable State*: That *Himſelf was not exempt from Danger*: That *he could never enough commend their Zeal for their Country*; And that *he was in particular very much oblig'd to them for the favourable Regard they had to his Intereſt*: *but after all, he doubted if the Time was yet come, to think of ſuch violent Remedies as they propos'd, which always had very bad conſequences, if the Event did not fall out as was projected.*

To

To this Answer (for a more positive one he would not give) he added so many Caresses and obliging Thanks to each Man in particular, that they went away satisfy'd their Message was well Receiv'd; but that they must expect the Prince would make no more Advances in the Matter, than by giving his Consent when Things should be in a Condition to put the Success out of doubt.

After the Deputies were gone, he agreed with *Pinto* what new Measures were best to be taken, and so went back to *Villa-viciosa*; and now he began to feel a Disquiet of Mind, which hinder'd him from relishing the Pleasures of a private Life.

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As ſoon as he was return'd, he communicated to the Ducheſs, his Wife, the Propoſitions which had been made to him. This Princeſs was of *Spaniſh* Extraction, and Siſter to the Duke of *Medina Sidonia*, a Grandee of *Spain*, and Governor of *Andaluſia*. She had by Nature a ſtrong inclination to whatever was great and noble, which in time was grown up to a boundleſs Paſſion for Glory. The Old Duke finding mighty things were to be expected from her Wit and Courage, had taken care to improve the Gifts of Nature by a ſuitable Education. He plac'd about her the fitteſt Perſons to inſpire Ambition into her Breaſt, which the World regards as ſomething no-

ble, and the chief Virtue of a Prince. She learnt ſeveral Tongues with a great deal of eaſe, but nothing could come near that wondrous Sweetneſs with which ſhe expreſs'd her ſelf in her natural Language. In the Sound of her Voice, and in every word ſhe ſpoke, was a ſecret Charm, which raviſh'd all who heard her. Her Air was noble, great, and free, full of a majeſtick Sweetneſs, which at the ſame time inſpir'd Love and Reſpect into thoſe who were about her.

She took the *Portugueſe* Air with ſo much eaſe, ſhe ſeem'd Born at *Lisbon*. In the firſt place, ſhe was careful to win the Eſteem of her Husband, which ſhe perfectly well did by the Auſte-

Auſterity of her Life, by a ſolid Devotion, and a perfect Complaiſance to his Reliſh. She wav'd thoſe Pleaſures which are the ordinary Amuſement of Perſons of her Quality and Age, and ſeem'd to employ her leiſure Hours in thoſe things which might embelliſh her Mind, or improve her Judgment.

The Duke of *Braganza* was tranſported with the Happineſs of enjoying ſo finiſh'd a Woman: He had an infinite Eſteem for her, and an entire Confidence in her; He never undertook any thing without conſulting with her, and therefore had a care not to engage in an Affair of this kind without her Advice and Opinion.

He discover'd to her the Plan of the Conspiracy, the Names of the Persons privy to it, their Zeal and Warmth, and every Particular that had pass'd at *Lisbon*, and the Conference at *Almada*. He added, That on the News of the Expedition into *Catalonia*, he plainly saw the Nobility would revolt, rather than be compell'd to leave their Country: That, it was to be fear'd, upon his Refusal, they would look out for another Head: That notwithstanding, he could not forbear confessing, that the Danger of the Enterprize startled him; That as often as he had thought of this Design at a distance, the flattering Idea of Greatness had made an agreeable impression on his

Mind;

Mind; but now he was upon the point of putting this in execution, and running all the Risks of ſo hazardous an Undertaking, he could not look without Dread on the Danger which he and his whole Family was about to throw himſelf into. That the fickle Humour of the Multitude was not much to be rely'd on, the Edge of whoſe Courage is taken off by the leaſt Difficulty, and they eaſily diſpers'd by every Blaſt of Wind. That it was not ſufficient for him to have the Nobility on his ſide, unleſs they were ſupported by the Great Men of the Kingdom, but very far from hoping they would come over to his Intereſt. He could not but foreſee they would be

the moſt cruel of his Enemies; the natural Pride of Mankind never ſuffering them to make a Maſter of one who has once been their Equal.

Theſe Conſiderations, with ſeveral other; as the Power of *Spain*, the ſmall Aſſurance of Foreign Aſſiſtance, ballanc'd his Paſſion for Government. But the Ducheſs, who had a greater Firmneſs of Mind, and a more lively Ambition, clos'd wholly with the Conſpiracy. The View of ſo great an Undertaking, ſerv'd only to excite her Courage, and rowſe up her Ardent Thirſt after Greatneſs: She repreſented to her Husband with a great deal of Vehemence, *the undoubted Rights which he had to the Crown*: That

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in the deplorable State to which the Caſtillians *had reduc'd* Portugal, *a Man of his Rank and Quality could not diſpenſe with remaining any longer indifferent*: That *his Children and Poſterity would reproach his Memory with a Puſillanimity beneath his Blood, if he ſhould loſe ſo favourable an Opportunity.* After this ſhe exaggerated to that Prince *the ſweetneſs of Reigning in a Country where he could not Obey without Fear; the Charms of a Crown, and the Facility of ſeizing it*: That *in caſe he ſhould miſs of that Foreign Aid which had been offer'd to him, he was Potent enough to expel the* Spaniards, *eſpecially at this Juncture, when there was a Revolt in* Catalonia. In fine, ſhe ſo Skilfully ſhew'd him the Crown on its moſt glittering

ſide, that ſhe determin'd him. But in this ſhe agreed with him, to let the Number of the Conſpirators encreaſe, before he declar'd himſelf more poſitively, and not to appear publickly in this Matter till the Moment of its Execution.

All this while the Court was not without ſome Diſquiet. The extraordinary Marks of Joy which the People of *Lisbon* had ſhewn on the Duke of *Braganza*'s appearing amongſt them, had made a great Impreſſion on the Miniſter. He began to ſuſpect private Clubs were held in that City; and ſome Rumours, which commonly precede great Events, exceedingly encreas'd his uneaſineſs.

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The King held ſeveral Councils on this Occaſion; in which it was reſolv'd, That for the effectual defeating the *Portugueſe* Hopes of a Revolt, the Duke of *Braganza*, the only Perſon whom they had occaſion to fear, ſhould forthwith be ſent for to *Madrid*. For this purpoſe the *Conde* Duke ſent a Courier to him, with this Meſſage; That *the King had a Mind to be inform'd from himſelf, and confer with him concerning the State of the Troops and Gariſons in* Portugal: That *he was mightily wiſh'd for at Court by his Friends; and that he could not doubt he ſhould be receiv'd in a manner ſuitable to his Birth and Merit.*

No Clap of Thunder could have ſurpriz'd him more than

this News. The Earneſtneſs and different Pretences they made uſe of to draw him out of *Portugal*, confirm'd his ſuſpicion they had a Deſign on his Perſon, and were reſolv'd to take him off. They had left pretended Employs and falſe Careſſes, and were now come to poſitive Orders, which would ſoon be follow'd by Force and Violence in caſe of Diſobedience. This put him into a Panick Fear, imagining he was betray'd; the uſual Fate of thoſe who have great Projects in their Head, who ſtill believe the World is buſy in obſerving their Steps, and gueſſes at the Secret of them. Thus did that diffident Prince perplex himſelf, thinking he was now plung'd in an Ocean of Trouble. How-

However, to gain Time, and have leiſure to give the Conſpirators notice of his Danger, by the Advice of his Wife, he ſent a Gentleman of his Houſe, a Perſon of great Addreſs and Fidelity, to *Madrid*, to aſſure the Miniſter he would ſuddenly attend the King. To this Man he gave ſecret Inſtructions, to invent from Time to Time different Pretences to excuſe his Delay, hoping to prevent the Storm by bringing the Conſpiracy to ripeneſs. As ſoon as this Gentleman was at *Madrid*, he aſſur'd the King and First Miniſter, that his Maſter follow'd him. He took a great Houſe, which he furniſh'd very richly, and retain'd a great Number of Servants, giving them Liveries

veries by way of Advance, laying out very conſiderable Sums of Money every day. In ſhort, he omitted nothing to make them believe the Prince would come immediately, and appear at Court in all the Splendor becoming a Perſon of his Rank.

Some few Days after, he feign'd to have receiv'd Advice, That he was very ill. At laſt, finding this would not hold longer, he preſented a Memorial to the Firſt Miniſter, praying in the Name of the Duke his Maſter, the King would aſſign his Precedence in the Court.

He thought this would take up ſome time to adjuſt, and meet with Oppoſition from the Great Men, who would intervene

vene to maintain their Rights: But the Miniſter, who began to ſuſpect theſe Delays, ſoon remov'd all Difficulties, and engag'd the King to declare in his Favour, in every point for his Honour; ſo deſirous he was to draw him out of *Portugal*, and ſee him at *Madrid*.

The Conſpirators no ſooner underſtood the Orders which the Duke had receiv'd from the Court, but fearing he ſhould obey them they ſent *Mendoza* to confirm him and engage him more ſtrictly to their Party. They made choice of this Gentleman, becauſe being Governor of a Place near *Villa-vicioſa*, the pretence of going to his Government covered the ſecret Intention

of

of this Journey from the *Spaniards*. He took an opportunity of meeting that Prince a Hunting; They struck into the Wood, and stopping in a private place, *Mendoza* laid before him *the Danger which he expos'd himself to by going to Court: That he would absolutely ruin the Hopes of the Nobility and People by putting himself with too rash a confidence into the Hands of his Enemies: That there were a great Number of well-qualified Gentlemen who were resolv'd to sacrifice their Lives and Fortunes for his Service: That they only expected notice from him when they should appear: That the Critical minute was now come when he must chuse either to dye or wear a Crown: That it was Hazardous to make any fur-*

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ther Delays; and he muſt not doubt an Affair of ſo great Importance, which was entruſted in ſo many Hands, muſt needs at length come to the Knowledge of the Spaniards. The Duke reply'd, That *he was of his mind, and that he might aſſure his Friends that he was reſolv'd to put himſelf at their Head.*

Mendoza return'd Poſt to *Liſbon*, acquainted his Friends with the Succeſs of his Voyage; and that the Prince deſir'd *Pinto* might come to him. Him they ſent away inſtantly with neceſſary Inſtructions to inform the Duke of the Scheme and Ways by which they intended to put their Project in Execution. When *Pinto* came, he acquainted him in what Confuſion the Court at *Lisbon* was;

the

the Vice-Queen made high Complaints of the Insolence and Pride of *Vasconcellos*; That she could not any longer endure that all the Dispatches from *Spain* should be Address'd to him, while she being invested with a glittering Title, had no real Authority. This Complaint was the more to be regarded, because That Princess was a Person of great Merit, and every way capable of Discharging the Extent of her Trust: but indeed the Greatness of her Genius, and her other good Qualities, were the principal Reason why she had so inconsiderable a share in the Government allow'd her.

Pinto observ'd to his Master how much this misunderstanding favour'd

favour'd his Deſigns, and that he could not lay hold of a fairer occaſion than theſe Diviſions at Court, which would not give the *Spaniſh* Miniſters leave to obſerve the Steps he ſhould take.

The Duke, who perceiv'd the Strength of his Reaſons, found himſelf likewiſe preſs'd by that Gentleman whom he ſent to *Madrid*. He receiv'd Letters from him every Day, aſſuring him, That he could not find new Colours for his Abſence, or delude the Miniſter, who would not any longer hear his Excuſes. Thus ſeeing he had no Time to loſe, he reſolv'd to riſe without delay. And now to gain Time for the diſpoſing his Affairs, he commanded

manded his Agent to represent to the *Conde* Duke *d'Olivarez*, That he should have been at *Madrid* before that time, if he had had Money enough to bear the Expences of his Journey, and enable him to make a Figure suitable to his Quality and Character; and that as soon as he could raise the necessary Funds, he would instantly come away for the Court.

When he had sent the Dispatch, he took *Pinto* with him into the Duchesses Apartment, to consider of the most proper means to put their Design in execution. And after some Debate, the Duke resolv'd on this, That *it was necessary to secure* Lisbon, *which being the Capital, was the Spring which mov'd the whole Kingdom*: That on the

the ſame Day that City ſhould declare for him, he would cauſe himſelf to be proclaim'd King of Portugal in all the Cities of his Dependance: That thoſe of his Friends, who were Governors of Forts, ſhould do the ſame in all Places where they Commanded, and the Conſpirators ſhould raiſe the People in all the Towns and Villages which belong'd to them; that ſo this General Inſurrection diffuſing it ſelf like a Conflagration through every part of the Kingdom, the Spaniards might not know whither to bend their Arms: That he would fling his own Regiment into the Town of Elvas, the Governor of which was at his Devotion: That as for the manner of ſeizing Lisbon, he could not preſcribe any thing, that Action depending wholly on the Time, and

other

other Circumſtances when they ſhould attempt it: That *however he was of the Opinion, they ought to make their firſt Attacks on the Palace, and ſecure the Perſon of the Vice-Queen, and the reſt of the* Spaniards, *who might ſerve as Haſtages for the Surrender of the Citadel, which otherwiſe might very much incommode the Town after they were Maſters of it.*

He gave two Letters of Credence, one to *d'Almeida*, and the other to *Mendoza*; in which he ſignify'd to them, That he had entruſted the Bearer with his Intentions; He only added, That he hop'd they would be Faithful to the Aſſurances they had given him, and act with Courage and Vigour in the Work they were about

about to undertake. After this the Duke ſent *Pinto* to *Lisbon*, having firſt given him the higheſt Marks of Confidence, he ſhould enjoy the ſame Place in his Affection, after a Revolution, that he now had.

As ſoon as he came to *Lisbon*, he deliver'd his Letters to *d' Almeida* and *Mendoza*, who ſent immediately to *Le Mos* and *Coreé*, whom *Pinto* had formerly brought over to his Maſter's Intereſt. Theſe were two Rich Citizens, who had a mighty Authority with the People; they had paſs'd through moſt of the Offices of the City, and had a great Number of Workmen who depended on them. Theſe Men had taken a great deal of Pains to foment and che-

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riſh in the Minds of the Townſmen an Averſion to the *Spaniards*, by Rumors they daily ſpread of Taxes intended to be rais'd the beginning of the next Year. They had diſcharg'd ſeveral of their Workmen, eſpecially the moſt Mutinous, pretending the Badneſs of Trade would not ſuffer them to employ them, they could not keep them any longer; while their Real Intent was by Neceſſity and Starving, to prepare them for an Inſurrection. And the better to accompliſh their Ends, they ſupply'd theſe ſtarving Wretches from Time to Time, keeping them at their Devotion. Beſides this, theſe Men held a private Correſpondence with the principal Perſons in all Parts of

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the Town; by the help of which, they assur'd the Conspirators, That upon notice given the Night before the Execution, they would engage to raise the People at any Hour they should assign.

Pinto being thus assur'd of the Inferior People, began to look to the other Conspirators, whom he urg'd to be ready upon the first Alarm, desiring they would secure their Friends under pretence of some private Quarrel, without making them privy to the design in which they should be employ'd. In this Conduct he gave proof of an Extraordinary Prudence, there being abundance of People who have Courage and Resolution when the Sword

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is in their hands; who are not able in cold Blood to bear the weight of so important a Secret.

Thus finding every one firm, undaunted, and impatient to be reveng'd on the *Spaniards*, he conferr'd with *d' Almeida*, *Mendoza d' Almada*, and *Mello*; who finding all things in such a condition as they wish'd, agreed on *Saturday* * the First of *December* for the Execution. They gave notice to the Duke of *Braganza* of this Resolve, that so he might cause himself to be proclaim'd King in the Province of *Alenteio*, which almost entirely depended on him; and agreed before the Company broke up, to have another Meet-

* 1st. *Decemb.* 1640.

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ing * to take the last Measures for the Action.

The 25th of *November*, at night, they met at *Braganza* House, as they had agreed. They found they could account on a hundred and fifty Gentlemen, the most part of which were the Heads of their Families, with all their Domesticks, and about Two hundred Citizens and Tradesmen; and they concluded by the Interest of these, they should bring the greatest Part of the People over to them.

The Death of *Vasconcellos* was resolv'd on as a Victim due to the Resentment of the *Portuguese*, and some propos'd to treat the

* 25th of *November*.

Archbishop of *Braga* after the same manner. They represented him as a Man whose great Abilities render'd him formidable: That it was not to be thought he could stand as an unconcern'd Spectator in this publick Confusion: That possibly he might put himself at the Head of the *Spaniards*, and their Creatures; and whilst they were busy in making themselves Masters of the Palace, he might throw himself into the Citadel, or come to the Assistance of the Vice-Queen, to whom all the World knew he was devoted: That in an Affair of this Nature it was a great Imprudence to leave Enemies behind them: That such a Conduct might possibly give them occasion to repent severely

of

of their ill-tim'd and miſtaken Pity.

Theſe Reaſons drew the greateſt part of the Company to conſent to his Death; and this Prelate had ſuffer'd the ſame Fate as *Vaſconcelles*, if *Dom Miguel d' Almeida* had not taken his part. He remonſtrated to the Conſpirators, That *the Death of a Man of his Character, and in ſo high a Dignity, would render them odious to all the World*: That *ſuch an Action would draw on the Duke of* Braganza *the Hatred of the Clergy and Inquiſition, a Race of Men formidable to the greateſt Princes, and add the Reproach of an Excommunicated Perſon to that of Rebel and Uſurper*: That *the Prince himſelf would be deeply affected to ſee his Acceſſion to*

the Throne blemish'd by so bloody an Action: That *Himself would have an Eye over him, and take effectual care to prevent his undertaking any thing to the prejudice of the publick Interest.* In short, he spoke so much in his Favour, that he obtain'd the Life of that Prelate, of his Friends, who could not refuse any thing to a Man of his Worth.

Nothing farther remain'd to be adjusted, but the Order they should march in, and the Manner of making the first Attack. At last it was resolv'd to throw themselves in four different Parties, into so many several Parts of the Palace, and make themselves Masters of the several Avenues; to cut off all Communication, and prevent

prevent the *Spaniards* from bringing any Assistance. That *Dom Miguel d' Almeida* should attack the *German* Guard before the Palace-Gates: That the Great Master of the Horse, *Mello*, his Brother, and *Dom Estean d' Acugna* at the Head of the Townsmen, should surprize a *Spanish* Company which kept Guard every Day before the Fort: That *Feillo de Menezes*, *Emanuel Sa*, the Great Chamberlain, should make themselves Masters of *Vasconcello's* Apartment, whom they should forthwith dispatch: That *Dom Antonio d' Almada*, *Mendoza*, *Dom Carlos Norogna*, and *Antonio de Salsouia*, should secure the Person of the Vice-Queen, and all the *Spaniards* in the Palace to serve as Hostages if there should be occasion:

casion: That whilst each one was busy in making themselves Masters of the Posts, assign'd them some few Horse should be detach'd away, who, with some principal Citizens should proclaim *Dom John* Duke of *Braganza*, King of *Portugal*: That when the Multitude was drawn into the Streets, they should throw themselves where any Opposition should happen to be made. Thus they broke up with a Resolution to meet on *Saturday* the First of *December*, some at *Dom Miguel d'Almeida's*, and others at *d'Almada's* and *Mendoza's* Houses, where the Conspirators were to Arm themselves.

While the Friends of the Duke of *Braganza* were thus busy at *Lisbon* in advancing his Affairs, he

he himself was employ'd in securing the Provinces; the First Minister alarm'd by these Delays, dispatch'd away a Courier, with express Orders for him to come immediately to Court, and to prevent his making any pretence of Want of Money, he sent with him an Order for Ten Thousand Ducats on the Royal Treasury.

This was plain and intelligible Language. The Duke could not defer his Journey without justly rendring himself suspected: He could not with any Colour of Reason dispense with obeying the King's Message; and had Grounds to conclude, That all farther Delays would soon bring some unwelcome Orders from *Madrid*, which would break all his Mea-

sures, and ruin his Enterprize. And therefore, to make an Appearance of complying with the King's pressing Commands, he order'd the greatest part of his Household to set forward for *Madrid*.

He gave all necessary Orders during his Absence: He dispatch'd away a Gentleman at the same time to the Vice-Queen, to give her notice of his Departure. He writ to the First Minister to assure him, that he would be at Court within Eight days at farthest; and to have all things represented to the best advantage, he brib'd the Courier with a Sum, under a pretence of a Gratuity for his Care and Dispatch in bringing the King's Orders to him. At the same time he acquainted the Conspira-

tors

tors with these fresh Orders, laying before them the Necessity of putting their Designs in execution on the Day which was agreed on, for fear of being prevented by the *Spaniards*.

But there was an Obstacle which hinder'd them from attempting any thing so suddenly. There was a Man of Quality at *Lisbon*, who shew'd on all Occasions a violent Hatred of the *Spanish* Government. He would ever be Railing against them, calling them Tyrants and Usurpers, and declaiming against their Injustice and Oppression; above all, he would ever be venting his Spleen on the Expedition into *Catalonia*, and making a Thousand dismal Prognosticks on it. *D' Almada*

having frequently convers'd with him, did not believe any Man could more heartily wish the Prosperity of *Portugal*, or would be more transported to hear of any Designs on foot for the effectual Restoring of its Liberty. But, Gods! how he was astonish'd, when taking him aside, to acquaint him with this Conspiracy! He found him as fearful and backward in Action, as he had appear'd daring in Words. He began now to excuse himself from having any share in this matter, or being concern'd in this Plot, pretending there was no good Grounds to proceed on; and the same Person, who so Bold and Brave when the Thing was remote, was now become timorous, and scar'd at the

the Proſpect of the leaſt Danger; *Where*, ſays he to *d' Almada*, *are thoſe Forces which are neceſſary to ſupport a Deſign of this nature? What Army have you to oppoſe the* Spaniſh *Troops, which will be poured into the Country upon the firſt Motion of this kind? What Great Men have you to appear at the Head of you?* Or, *have they a Fund ſufficient to bear the Expence of a Civil War? I'm afraid, that inſtead of Reſtoring the Liberties of* Portugal, *your Attempt will only prove deſtructive to it, and furniſh the* Spaniards *with a Pretence, which they have long ſought for, to accompliſh the Ruin of this Kingdom.*

D' Almada, who expected nothing leſs than Expreſſions of this kind, enrag'd to find he had truſted

truſted his Secret in ſo ill hands, gave no other Anſwer; but drawing his Sword, his Eyes ſparkling with Rage, reply'd, *Falſe Man! either thou ſhalt take my Life, together with my Secret, or I will make thee an Example for having thus ſurpriz'd my Credulity by thy Lyes and Impoſture.* The other, who always held it Prudent to avoid the Danger which was neareſt, at the ſight of a drawn Sword conſented to all that *d'Almada* had propos'd, and offer'd to enter into the Conſpiracy, finding Reaſons to invalidate thoſe he firſt gave; he ſwore with repeated Oaths again to keep the Secret inviolably: In ſhort, he forgot nothing that might perſuade *d'Almada*, that it was neither Courage, nor

want

want of Reſentment againſt the *Spaniards*, which had kept him from agreeing to the Propoſal as ſoon as he had made it.

However, *d'Almada* did not dare to rely on his Oaths and Aſſurances, but was mightily diſturb'd at this Accident; And keeping a watchful Eye on this Man, he gave notice to the Conſpirators of this Adventure. The Alarm was ſoon ſpread, and ſeveral Reflexions were made on the Levity and Inconſtancy of this Man; and they began to fear, That the View of Danger, or the Hopes of a Great Recompence, ſhould induce him to prove Treacherous in ſpite of all their Care for Prevention. On this Conſideration they reſolv'd to defer the Execu-

tion

tion of their Plot, and oblig'd *Pinto* to write to his Master to forbear till he receiv'd farther News from them. But *Pinto*, who very well knew of what Importance it is to defer the Day in Matters of this Nature, writ privately to that Prince to have no Regard to his Letter, as proceeding only from a Panick Fear in the Conspirators, which would certainly vanish before the Messenger could arrive at *Villa-viciosa*.

And so it happen'd; for the next Morning finding every one continue unshaken, they began to be asham'd of taking so hot an Alarm; and he who was the chief Cause of this Uneasiness being a little better settled (either by a greater Generosity of Temper,

per, or Apprehenſion of the bad Conſequence of accuſing ſo many Great Men) they reſolv'd to adhere to the Day firſt agreed on. But ſcarce was this Difficulty over, but another aroſe, which did not create leſs Diſquiet amongſt them.

Pinto had taken Care to place divers of the Conſpirators about the Palace to obſerve all that paſs'd. Theſe, as they appear'd to walk idly up and down, the Night before the Execution, which was to begin with the Death of *Vaſconcellos*, ſaw that Miniſter Embark on the *Tago*.

None beſides the Conſpirators could have drawn any Concluſion from this, ſince a Thouſand ſeveral Occaſions, in which they had

had not the leaſt ſhare, might carry him over the River. But their Jealouſy was ſo great, that an Alarm was inſtantly ſpread amongſt them. They immediately concluded this Crafty, Politick Miniſter, who had his Spies in every Corner, had diſcover'd ſomething of their Plot. They made no Doubt his going over the Water was with deſign to ſend ſome of the Troops which Quarter'd in the Neighbouring Villages, into the Town. The Images of the moſt terrible Puniſhments, and the Horrors of Death preſented it ſelf to their Imaginations; they fancied their Houſes ſurrounded with Officers of Juſtice; and ſome began to think of flying into *Africk* or *England*

to

to escape the Cruelty of the *Spaniards*. They pass'd away part of the Night under these terrible Apprehensions, as it were between Life and Death, when some of the Conspirators, who kept about the Court, came to inform them, That the Secretary was return'd with *Hautboys* Sounding before him, he only having been at an Entertainment on the other side of the Water. This News put an End to all their anxious Thoughts, and made them all joyful; and so each Man departed, being well assur'd there was nothing stirring in the Palace, and that all there slept in a profound Security, not once dreaming of the next Day's Action.

It was very late when they parted; and from that time, to the Minute of the Execution, there were but a few Hours of Night, notwithſtanding a conſiderable Accident happen'd in that Space; which ſhews us how full of Uncertainty and Hazard all Enterprizes are, where the Fear of Puniſhment, or the Hope of Reward, may tempt Men to be Treacherous and Faithleſs. *George Mello*, Brother to the Maſter of the Horſe, moſt commonly lodg'd at the Houſe of one of his Relations, in one of the Subburbs, at a ſmall Diſtance from the City. This Gentleman thought that the Minute of the Plot breaking out being now at hand, his Relation, who had for a long time

time been his intimate Friend, might juſtly reproach him if he ſhould conceal a matter of that Importance from him, in which the other was equally concern'd with himſelf for the Common Good of his Country: That he could eaſily engage him in the Conſpiracy, and bring him with him to the Rendezvouz. Upon this Conſideration, as ſoon as he was return'd to his Lodging, he goes up to his Kinſman's Chamber, and taking him into his Cloſet, communicates the Enterprize to him, urging him to join with ſo many Worthy Perſons, and to behave himſelf like a Man of Honour, and a true *Portugueſe*. The Other was ſurpriz'd with ſo ſtrange a Piece of News; how-

ever

ever he ſtrove to ſhew a ſort of Joy to find his Country was upon the Point of Recovering its Liberty. He thank'd *Mello* for the Confidence he had honour'd him with, and aſſur'd him, he ſhould eſteem it a Happineſs to expoſe his Life, and be admitted to have a ſhare of Danger with ſo many brave Men in ſo Juſt and Glorious a Cauſe.

After this they parted to take a Repoſe of ſome few Hours; *Mello* was ſcarcely in his Chamber before he began to Repent of his Exceſſive Confidence, and to blame himſelf for having put the Fate of ſo many Worthy Men into the Hands of a Perſon he was not entirely aſſur'd of. He thought

thought he diſcover'd in his Eyes and Countenance a ſecret Uneaſineſs, and the Marks of Surprize and Apprehenſion at the Proſpect of ſo Dangerous an Enterprize. In ſhort, he was afraid the Fear of Puniſhment, and the Hopes of a Certain Reward, might prevail with him to make a Diſcovery.

Full of theſe Tormenting Reflections he walk'd about his Chamber; when hearing a ſort of muttering Noiſe, and ſeveral Perſons talking low, he opened his Window to hear what they ſaid: And by the Help of a Dim-light he diſcover'd his Kinſman at the Door, ready to mount on Horſeback. At this being fired with Rage, he ſoon

came

came down; and running with his drawn Sword at him, demanded, *What made him out of Doors at that time of Night? What his Busineſs was, and whither he was going?* The other being exceedingly ſurpriz'd, endeavour'd to give ſeveral indifferent Reaſons; but *Mello* threatning to kill him, conſtrain'd him to return again into his Chamber, and took the Keys along with him, and kept him under his Eye till the Time of Action, and then brought him with him to meet the other Conſpirators.

At length the Day was come when the Event was to determine whether the Duke of *Braganza* deſerv'd the Title of King, and

and Deliverer of his Country, or that of Rebel and Enemy of the State.

The Conſpirators came early to the Houſe of *Dom Miguel d' Almeida*, and the other Gentlemen, where they were to Arm themſelves. They all appear'd there with ſo much Reſolution and Confidence, they ſeem'd to go to a certain Victory. It was remarkable, that in ſo great a Number of Clergymen, Citizens, and Gentlemen, all acted by different Intereſts, not one Man out of the whole Number fail'd in his Word and Honour: Every one was as impatient for the Moment of Execution, as if he had been Chief,

and

and Author of the Enterprize, and expected the Crown for the Recompence of the Dangers which he expos'd himself to. Divers Ladies coveted a share in this Glorious Exploit; and History has preserv'd the Memory of *Dona Philippa de Villenas*, who Arm'd both her Sons with her own Hands; and after she had put on their Cuirasses, *Go, my Children*, says she, *put an End to Tyranny, and Revenge your selves of your Enemies; and be assured, that if your Attempt fail of Success, your Mother will not survive one Moment the Misfortune of so many brave Men.*

All

All being thus Armed, made their way to the Palace, and divers of them went in Chairs to conceal their Number and Arms. They divided themſelves into four Bodies, as was agreed, waiting with a great deal of Impatience till the Clock ſtruck Eight, which was the preciſe Moment of Execution. Never did Time ſeem ſo long; the fear of having their Number obſerved, or that the early Hour they appeared before the Palace, might give the Secretary any Suſpicion, made them very uneaſie. At length it ſtruck Eight a Clock, and *Pinto* having fired a Piſtol, they all took the Signal.

Each Man charged briskly in the Poſt aſſigned him, *Dom Miguel d' Almeida*, with his Party,

fell on the *German* Guard, who being unprovided, and destitute of Arms, were soon defeated, and that almost without making any Resistance.

The Master of the Horse, *Mello* his Brother, and *Dom Estevan d' Acugna* attacked the *Spanish* Company, which lay before that part of the Palace which is called the Fort. In this he was sustained by those Townsmen who were concerned with him. These Men, with their Swords in their Hands, forced the *Corps de Garde* where the *Spaniards* were retrenched. But none made a more considerable Figure than a Priest of the Town, who marched at the Head of the Conspirators, with a Crucifix in one Hand, and a Sword in the other, exhort-

exhorting the People to cut their Enemies in Pieces, and charging the *Spaniards* himſelf with the utmoſt Fury. All fled before him; for appearing Arm'd, with an Object that Religion teaches us to revere, no Perſon dar'd to hurt him. Thus, after a ſlight Reſiſtance, the *Spaniſh* Officer and his Soldiers were forced to ſubmit, and ſave their Lives, by crying as the reſt did, *God ſave* the Duke of *Braganza*, *King of* Portugal.

Pinto having thus made his way to the Palace, put himſelf at the Head of thoſe who attacked the Apartment of *Vaſconcellos*. He marched with ſo much Aſſurance and Reſolution, that happening to meet one of his Friends, who

asked him, trembling, where he was going with that number of Armed Men, and what he was about to do. *Nothing*, replied he ſmiling, *but to dethrone a Tyrant, and reſtore a lawful Prince.*

In entring the Secretaries Apartment they met *Franciſco Soarez d' Albergeria*, the Civil Lieutenant * who was juſt going out of his Lodgings. This Magiſtrate thinking the Tumult only proceeded from a quarrel, offer'd to interpoſe his Authority, to end the Fray. But hearing them cry on all ſides, *God ſave the* Duke of *Braganza*, he thought the Honour and Duty of his Place obliged him to cry, *God ſave the King of*

* *Corrigidor de Civil.*

Spain

Spain *and* Portugal, which coſt him his Life, one of the Conſpirators ſhooting him inſtantly dead, proud to have this occaſion to puniſh his ill-timed Loyalty.

Antonio Correa, firſt Commiſſioner of the Secretary, ran out upon the firſt Noiſe. This Man was the common Inſtrument of his Cruelties; and after the Example of his Maſter, treated the Nobility with great Contempt, *Dom Antonio de Menezes*, plunged his Dagger in his Breaſt. This Blow could not make the Wretch ſenſible his Power was at an End, but imagining in this Aſſault they had miſtaken him for another, he turned in a Rage to *Menezes*, crying, *Dogs, How dare you ſtrike*

at me: The other without replying, redoubled his Thrusts, and laid him on the Ground, weltring in his Blood. However, these Wounds did not prove Mortal, and he escaped at that time, to lose his Life after with more Ignominy, by the Hands of the common Executioner.

The Conspirators having thus treated the Commissary, who had stopt them for a small while on the Stairs, forced into the Secretaries Chamber. He had then with him *Diego Garcez Palleia*, a Captain of Foot, who seeing such a multitude of People enter Armed and enraged mistrusted a design on the Life of *Vasconcellos*. Tho' he had no obligation to that Minister, the generosity of his

his Temper made him throw himſelf out of the Door, with his Sword in his Hand, to diſpute the Entry of the Conſpirators, and give the Secretary time to make his Eſcape, but receiving a Hurt in his Arm, and being diſabled from holding his Sword, and oppreſt by the Multitude, he threw himſelf out of a Window, and had the good Luck to eſcape with Life.

Immediately the Conſpirators ruſhed in a Crowd into the Secretaries Lodgings, they ſearched for him every where, overturned the Beds, opened the Coffers, and every one was eager to have the Honour of the firſt Blow.

However, all this while he was no where to be found, and the

Conſpirators were reduced to Deſpair, and enraged to think he ſhould thus eſcape their Vengeance, till an Old Woman Servant being threatned with Death, pointed to a Wall in which ſeveral Arms were hid, and here they found him buried in Papers.

The Conſternation he was in at the apprehenſion of immediate Death, which he ſaw before him, would not ſuffer him to ſpeak the leaſt Word. *Dom Rodrigo de Saa* gave him the firſt ſhot with a Piſtol, after which the reſt of the Conſpirators ſtabbed him, and threw his Body out of the Window, crying, *The Tyrant is diſpatched, God preſerve our Liberty, and* Dom John, *King of* Portugal.

The

The Crowd about the Palace, ſeeing them throw out the Body, received it with great Shouts and Acclamations. Every one offer'd ſome Indignity to the lifeleſs Trunk, as if by this means they hoped to revenge the Oppreſſion of their Country, and give a Blow to Tyranny.

This was the Fate of *Michael Vaſconcellos*, a *Portugueze* by Birth, but an Enemy to his Country, and a *Spaniard* by his Inclination. He had by Nature an admirable *Genius* for Buſineſs, was a Man of great Ability and Application, of a marvellous Induſtry, fruitful in Inventing new Methods of drawing Money from the People, and, by conſequence, void of all Pity, Inflexible and Rigorous,

even to Cruelty: He had no regard to Kindred, Friends, or other Considerations: No Man had any Ascendant over him, he was insensible to all Pleasures, and incapable of being touched with any Remorse of Conscience: He had heaped together immense Wealth, by his Place, part of which was plunder'd in the Heat of the Sedition, the People pretending to do themselves Right for the Damages they sustained during his Ministery.

Pinto, without losing Time, marched to join the other Confederates, who were order'd to make themselves Masters of the Palace, and seize the Person of the Vice-Queen: He found this was done already, and that all Parts of

of their Design had been crown'd with equal Success. In short, those who were appointed to attack the Apartment of the Princess, presenting themselves before the Gates, and the furious Multitude threatning to set fire to them, if they did not forthwith open them, the Vice-Queen, attended with her Maids of Honour, and the Archbishop of *Braga*, presented her self at her Chamber-Door, flattering her self that her Presence would appease the Nobility, and oblige the People to withdraw. *Gentlemen*, said she, advancing towards the principal of the Conspirators, *the Secretary has justly drawn on himself the Odium of the People, and your Indignation, by his haughty and insolent Carriage; and now his*

Death

Death has deliver'd you from so hateful a Minister, methinks your Resentment ought to be satisfied? Consider, Gentlemen, these Disorders may as hitherto be imputed to your Hatred against the Secretary; but if you persist any longer in this Tumultuous manner, you will be guilty of Rebellion, and render me unable to make any Defence for you to the King.

Dom Antonio de Menezes, replied, That it was a Folly to think, that so many People of Rank had appeared in Arms to take away the Life of a Wretch, who ought to have lost it by the Hands of the common Haugman; That they were met together to restore the Duke of Braganza to a Crown, that rightfully belonged to him, and had been usurped by Strangers, and they would sacrifice their Lives with Plea-

Pleaſure, to replace him on the Throne. She was about to reply, and interpoſe the King's Authority, but *d' Almeida* fearing that any longer Parley might abate the Heat of the Conſpirators, interrupted her, telling her in ſhort, *Portugal owned no other King than the Duke of* Braganza, and the Conſpirators immediately gave a ſhout, each ſtriving to outvie the other, *God ſave* Don John, *King of* Portugal.

The Vice-Queen ſeeing the Torrent had broke all bounds, thought ſhe ſhould find more Obedience in the City, and that her Preſence would have more Influence on the People and Townſmen, when the Conſpirators were not there to encourage them. But as ſhe offered to go down, *Don Carlos*

Carlos Norogna intreated her to keep in her Chamber, assuring her she should be served with the same Respect, as if she had still the Command of the Kingdom, telling her, He did not judge it by any means convenient, to expose the Person of so great a Princess to the Insults of the Multitude, who were all in Tumult, and full of Zeal for their Liberty. She soon understood she was his Prisoner, and next, demanded in a disdainful manner, *And what can the Mobb do to me?* To which *Norogna* replied, in a very great Passion, *Nothing, Madam, but throw your Highness out of the Windows.*

The Archbishop of *Braga* was incensed at these words of *Norogna*, and snatching a Sword from a Soldier

Soldier near him, attempted in an outragious manner to throw himself thro' the Conſpirators, to kill him, and revenge the Affront done to the Vice-Queen; but *Dom Miguel d' Almeida* embracing him, conjured him to conſider the danger to which he expoſed himſelf, and taking him aſide by force, told him, his Life had not coſt nothing: That he had had a great deal of difficulty in obtaining it, from the Conſpirators, to whom his Perſon was odious enough, that he had no farther need to exaſperate them by a Piece of Bravery ſo ill-timed, and ſo little agreeable to a Perſon of his Character. By this means he was perſwaded to withdraw, and diſſemble his Paſſion, hoping Time would

would give him a more favourable occasion of shewing his Resentment, and his Devotion to the Interest of *Spain*.

The rest of the Conspirators secured the *Spaniards*, who were in the Palace or the City: They seized on the Marquess *de la Pueiba*, *Major domo* to the Vice-Queen, and eldest Brother to the Marquess *de Leganez*, *Dom Didaco Cardevas*, ——Major General, *Dom Fernant de Castro*, Intendant of the Marine; the Marquess *de Bainetto*, Gentleman Usher to the Vice-Queen, and several Sea-Officers who were in the Port. All this was done with as little Disturbance as if they had been apprehended by Orders from the King of *Spain*. No Man stirred to assist them,

and

and themſelves were not in a Condition to reſiſt, being for the moſt part taken in their Beds.

In the next place, *Antonio de Saldania*, at the Head of his Friends, with a vaſt Crowd following him, went up to the ſovereign Chamber of Juſtice; He made a ſhort Speech to the Company, diſplaying the *Happineſs of* Portugal, *that now had regained her Natural Lord*: telling them, That Tyranny was now at an End: That the Laws would be re-eſtabliſhed, and Juſtice have its ancient Courſe, under the Government of ſo Wiſe and Juſt a Prince. This Speech was received with a general Applauſe, and anſwered by loud Acclamations; and all Decrees made in the King of *Spain*'s Name were changed

changed, and ſtiled, By the Authority, and in the Name of *Dom Juan*, King of *Portugal*.

Whilſt this Gentleman obliged the Chamber of Juſtice to own the Duke of *Braganza* for their King, *Dom Gaſton Contingno* ſet free thoſe whom the Severity of the *Spaniſh* Miniſters had confined. Theſe poor Men paſſing in one Moment from a gloomy Dungeon, and the continual fear of Death, to the delightful view of the Liberty of their Country, tranſported with Gratitude, and dreading the return of their Chains, made up a new Company, who did not ſhew leſs Ardour to eſtabliſh the Throne of the Duke of *Braganza*, than the Body of the Nobility, who formed the firſt Deſign.

In

In the midſt of this general Gladneſs, which the Succeſs of the Enterprize gave the Conſpirators, *Pinto*, and ſeveral of the Chief were extreamly uneaſie. The *Spaniards* were ſtill in the Citadel, from whence they could batter the Town, and ſoon give them occaſion to repent of their haſty Joy: Beſides, this was a Port where the King of *Spain* could re-enter the City at pleaſure; therefore thinking they had done nothing till they were Maſters of the Place, they went to the Vice-Queen, and demanded an Order from her for the Governour to put that into their Hands.

She rejected the Propoſition with Scorn, reproaching them with their Rebellion, and asking them

them disdainfully, if they intended to make her an Accomplice. *D' Almeida*, mad at her Refusal, all on Fire, and his Eyes sparkling with Rage, swore that if she did not sign this Order, without farther delay, he would instantly stab all the *Spaniards* they had in Custody. The Princess, surpris'd at the Passion of the Man, and fearing so many People of Quality might lose their Lives, thought the Governour knew his Duty too well to pay Obedience to an Order which he must needs see was extorted by Force, and upon this Consideration she Signed it, but this had a very different Effect from what she imagined. The Spanish Governour, *Dom Louis del Campo*, a Man of small

Reso-

Reſolution, ſeeing ſo many of the Conſpirators in Arms, and follow'd by a vaſt Crowd of People, who threatned to tear him and the whole Garriſon in pieces, if he did not inſtantly Surrender, was glad to come off ſo cheaply, and have ſo good a pretence to cover his Cowardice, ſurrendred the Citadel, and tamely delivered it into their Hands. The Conſpirators having thus ſecured all ſides, diſpatched away *Mendoza* and the Maſter of the Horſe to the Duke of *Braganza*, to carry him the News, and to aſſure him from the City, that there was nothing wanting to compleat their Joy, but the Preſence of their King.

How-

However, this was not equally desired by all Persons. The Great Men of the Kingdom could not see his Elevation without a secret Envy, and most of the Nobility, (who had no share in the Conspiracy) were silent, waiting for the Issue before they would declare their Sentiments. Nay, some proceeded so far as to question, whether that Prince would own an Action which would infallibly have such terrible Consequences. Above all the rest, the Creatures of *Spain* were in a strange Consternation, not a Man of them daring to stir, for fear of irritating the People, furious with their new Liberty, and every one kept himself close at Home, till Time should shew what they had

had to Fear or Hope from the Deſigns of the Duke of *Braganza*.

But his Friends, who were well informed of his Intentions, purſued their way. They met at the Palace to give Orders, till their New Maſter ſhould arrive, and unanimouſly declared the Archbiſhop of *Lisbon*, Preſident of the Council, and Lieutenant-General for the King. He excuſed himſelf at firſt, repreſenting to them, that the preſent State of the Kingdom required a General, rather than a Man of his Character, in ſuch a Poſt. But at length pretending to comply with the Importunity of his Friends, he conſented to take upon him the ſigning the Orders, provided the Archbiſhop of *Braga* were

were appointed for his Colleague in the management of Buſineſs, and all Diſpatches till the King's Arrival.

By this Device, that crafty and politick Prelate hoped, under Colour of ſharing an Authority with him, to render the other an Accomplice and Criminal in the Eyes of the *Spaniards*, if he accepted the Offer; or in caſe he refuſed, to ruin him with the King, and render him Odious to the People, and all *Portugal*, as a declared Enemy of that Kingdom.

The Archbiſhop of *Braga* perceived the Snare laid for him, but being wholly devoted to the *Spaniards*, and in the Intereſts of the Vice-Queen, he refuſed peremptorily to have any ſhare in the Go-

Government. So the Archbiſhop of *Lisbon* had it alone, and *Dom Miguel d' Almeida*, *Pedro Meńdoza*, and *Dom Antonio d' Almada* were appointed as Counſellors of State to aſſiſt him.

One of the firſt Cares of this Governour, was to ſeize the three great *Spaniſh* Galleons in the Port of *Lisbon*. For this purpoſe ſeveral Barks were fitted out, into which the Youth of the City threw themſelves: They diſcover'd an eager deſire to gain Honour in this Exploit, but little Oppoſition was made, the Officers and greateſt part of the Soldiers being ſeized in the City, at the Time when the Conſpiracy broke out.

The ſame Evening he diſpatched Couriers to exhort the People to give Thanks to God for the Recovery of their Liberty, with Orders to the Magiſtrates of each City to proclaim the Duke of *Braganza*, King of *Portugal*, and ſecure all the *Spaniards* they could find. In ſhort, he made all Preparations at *Lisbon*, for the magnificent reception of their new Maſter. The Archbiſhop gave notice to the Vice-Queen, that it would be convenient ſhe ſhould leave the Palace, and make room for the King and his Houſhold, and ordered an Apartment to be prepared for her in the Royal Houſe of *Xabregas*, at one end of the Town. The Princeſs left the Palace as ſoon as ſhe received this

this Meſſage, but with a haughty Air, not ſpeaking one word, and paſt thro' the City thither. And now, far from a Crowd of Courtiers attending her, ſhe had ſcarce any of her Domeſtick Servants with her, only the Archbiſhop of *Braga*, ſteady to her Intereſts, gave her publick Marks of it on this Occaſion, at a time when he could not do it without an apparent hazard of his Life.

In the mean time the Duke of *Braganza* endured great Convulſions of Mind, reflecting on his uncertain Deſtiny, and at once his Breaſt was fill'd with all the various Images with which Hope can flatter, or Fear torment a doubtful Mind. The diſtance of

Villa Viciosa, which is thirty Leagues from *Lisbon*, prevented his being informed of what passed so soon as he earnestly wished. All he knew was, that his Life and Fortune lay at Stake, and that Critical Minute must decide his Fate. He had resolved at first, as was noted above, to raise all the Cities under his Dependencies, but after he judged it better to expect News from *Lisbon*, and act his Part conformably to what should pass there.

There only remained the Kingdom of *Algarba*, and the City and Citadel of *Elvas*, which he could retire to, if Success fail'd in the Capital City; and if the Plot should miscarry, he thought he should easily excuse himself from having

having a ſhare in it, at a Time when the *Spaniards* would be glad to have him Innocent.

He had planted ſeveral Couriers on the Road to *Lisbon*; and tho' he expected News every Hour, he had paſt the whole Day, and a great part of the Night in diſturbance, till at length *Mendoza* and *Mello*, with extream diligence, arrived at *Villa Vicioſa*. They threw themſelves inſtantly at the Prince's Feet, and by this reſpectuous Action, and the Joy which ſhone in their Face, they diſcover'd to him, ſooner than they could by any Expreſſions, that he was King of *Portugal*.

They would have given him an exact Account of the Succeſs of their Enterprize; but the

Prince, without giving them Time to enter into the particulars of this Affair, conducted them, with some Impatience, into the Dutchesses Apartment. These two Lords complimented her in the same manner as if she had already been upon the Throne, and assured her of the Hearty Wishes of her Subjects, and as a Mark they own'd her for their Sovereign, they treated her with the Title of Her Majesty, which was the more agreeable, since the Kings of *Portugal*, before that Time, had only taken that of Highness.

It is easie to judge how mighty was the Joy of the Prince and Princess, if we reflect on the great uneasiness they were freed from,

and

and the high Station they were raiſed to. The Caſtle reſounded with Acclamations, and the News ſpread it ſelf every where in a Moment. And the ſame Day he was proclaimed King of *Portugal*, in all the Cities of his Dependances. *Alphonſo de Mello* did as much in the City of *Elvas*, whole Crowds came in to pay their Duty to their new King; and probably theſe firſt Homages, tho' paid in a confuſed and diſorderly manner, did not leſs pleaſe that Prince, than thoſe after on a Publick Day of Ceremony.

The King ſet forward for *Liſbon*, with the ſame Equipage, which ſeem'd deſign'd for the Court of *Spain*. He was accompanied by the Marqueſs *de Ferrara*,

his Kinſman, the Count *de Vimioſa*, and a great number of Perſons of Quality which met him there.

He left the Queen, his Wife at *Villa Vicioſa*, to keep the Province firm to his Obedience. He found the Ways lined on both ſides, with an infinite number of People, which flocked to ſee him, and had the pleaſure to hear the Shouts of the People, wiſhing his Proſperity, and loading the *Spaniards* with all the Curſes they could invent. The whole Body of the Nobility, the Great Officers of the Crown, and the firſt Magiſtrates, went out in ſeveral Bodies to receive him, at a great diſtance from *Lisbon*, and he enter'd the City, amidſt the Acclamati-

mations and Applauſe of the People, follow'd by a numerous and magnificent Court, fill'd with Joy.

At Night were ſeveral Fire-works in divers publick Places of the Town. Each Citizen had one before his Door, and the Windows ſhone with an infinity of Candles and Flambeaux, that the whole City ſeemed one Flame, which made a *Spaniard* ſay, *That Prince was very Fortunate, to gain ſo fair a Kingdom for a Bonefire.*

The Inſurrection at *Lisbon* was inſtantly followed by the General Revolt of the whole Kingdom, and the Revolution was ſo ſpeedy and general, that each City ſeemed to have a Plot ripe for Execution, after the Example of their Capital. Couriers arrived hourly

with Advice, that Cities, and entire Provinces had expelled the *Spaniards*, and ſubmitted to the King. The Governours of the other Places had not more Reſolution than him of *Lisbon*, and either for want of Troops, or other Warlike Proviſions, or for want of Courage they went off ſhamefully, and for the moſt part without once Firing. Every one feared the Fate of *Vaſconcellos*, and nothing appeared ſo terrible as an enraged Multitude. In ſhort, they fled like ſo many Criminals eſcaped out of Priſon, and not one *Spaniard* was to be ſeen in the whole Kingdom, except thoſe who were detained; and all this in leſs than a Fortnight's Time.

Dom

Dom Fernand de la Cueva, Governor of the Citadel of Sir *Juan*, at the Mouth of the *Tago*, was the only Perſon who made ſome reſiſtance, and pretended to keep the Place for the King his Maſter. This Garriſon, compoſed only of *Spaniards*, and commanded by brave Officers, made a vigorous Oppoſition, upon the firſt Approaches of the *Portugueſes*. To reduce this Place, they thought it neceſſary to Beſiege it in Form; and for this purpoſe brought their Canon down from *Lisbon*; the Trenches were opened, and they made their Advances as far as the Counterſcarp, notwithſtanding the continual Fire, and frequent Sallies of the Beſieged; but a Treaty being the ſafeſt

and

and ſhorteſt way to gain the Place, the King (in fine) made the Governour ſuch advantageous Offers, that he had not Power to ſtand out any longer. He was dazled with the great Summs offered, and having a Commend of the Order of *Chriſt*, which the King promiſed to conferr on him. In ſhort, the Articles were agreed on, and the Place Surrendred, notwithſtanding the endeavours of the Officers to the contrary, who refuſed to Sign the Capitulation: Of this number was *Dom Rodrigo de Chalon*, a young Gentleman of *Andaluſia*, of great Valour, who commanded a *Spaniſh* Terce in that Place, and offered to hold out three Weeks longer, till they

ſhould

ſhould receive Aid from *Spain*, which they had Intelligence were put to Sea, under the Command of the Duke of *Maqueda*.

The King thought it beſt not to deferr his Coronation any longer, to confirm his Authority, and render his Perſon more Auguſt to the People. The Ceremony was obſerved on the 15th of *December*, with all poſſible Magnificence. The Duke *d'Aveiro*, the Marqueſs *d'Villareal*, the Duke *de Camino* his Son, the Count *de Monſano*, and the reſt of the Great Men of the Kingdom aſſiſted at the Solemnity. The Archbiſhop of *Lisbon*, at the Head of his Clergy, accompanied by ſeveral Biſhops, received him at the Gate of the Cathedral, and he

was

was solemnly acknowledged as King of *Portugal* by all the States of the Kingdom, who took the Oath of Fidelity to him.

A few Days after the Queen arrived with a numerous Train. The whole Court went a great way out of Town to meet her; The Officers who were appointed to compose her Houshold were gone before, and the King himself went out of *Lisbon* to receive her. This Prince omitted no Magnificence which might become his new Dignity, or might give the World a Mark, how much he thought she contributed to place the Crown on his Head. It was remarkable, that in so great a Change she was not in the least embaras's'd, but supported her

her new Character with ſo much Grace and Majeſty, that ſhe ſeemed born in a Throne.

Thus was that great Enterprize happily finiſhed, which may be accounted a Miracle, conſidering the vaſt number, and different Characters of Perſons entruſted with the Secret. No Cement could ever have made ſo firm an Union, but that Hatred to the Spaniſh Government, an Antipathy as ancient as the Monarchy it ſelf, ariſing from the perpetual Wars, frequent between Neighbouring States, and after fomented by the Concurrence of both Nations in diſcovering the *Indies*, and their Difference in matters of Trade.

The

The News of the Revolt was soon brought to the Court of *Spain*. The Minister was enraged to find all his Measures broken, and so fair a Kingdom lost beyond all hopes of retrieving. The King, his Master, had no occasion for new Business: He found Difficulties enough to defend himself against the united Arms of *France* and *Holland*; but above all, the Revolt in *Catalonia* was of dangerous Consequence, and created in his Mind a thousand anxious Cares.

All the Court knew how Things went, and the King was the only Man who remained ignorant, and no one dared inform him, dreading the Displeasure of the Minister, who would never have pardoned

doned an Offence of this Nature. At laſt, this Affair making too much noiſe to be concealed any longer, the *Conde* Duke fearing ſome of his Enemies ſhould attempt to relate the Matter to his Diſadvantage, reſolved to diſcloſe it to the King. But knowing the Temper of that Prince, he thought to give this ſuch a Turn, that he ſhould not know the extent of his Loſs; and for this end, coming to him with a ſeeming Openneſs and Aſſurance. *Sir*, ſays he, *I bring your Majeſty a piece of good News, Your Majeſty is juſt now become Maſter of a fair Dutchy, and a large Eſtate.* How ſo? replied the King, all ſurprized, *I ſhall explain my ſelf*, ſays the Miniſter, *the Duke of* Braganza

has

has been lately Giddy, and ſuffered himſelf to be ſeduced by the Populace, and proclaimed King of Portugal. By this Act all his Eſtate is Confiſcated, and Your Majeſty may reunite it to Your Revenue; and by the Extinction of that Family, enjoy that Kingdom, without fearing any Diſturbance for the future.

Notwithſtanding this Prince was a very weak Man, he was not ſo dazled with theſe magnificent Hopes, but he ſaw this was no eaſie matter. But not daring to ſee with other Eyes than thoſe of his Miniſter, he only replied coldly, *That he hoped he would uſe all Diligence to ſuppreſs this Rebellion, which if let alone might have dangerous Conſequences.*

The

The King of *Portugal* neglected nothing which might eſtabliſh his new Greatneſs. Immediately after his arrival at *Lisbon*, he named for Governours of the Frontier Places, Men of the moſt approved Valour, Fidelity, and Experience; all which had Orders to depart ſtrait, with all the Soldiers they could get together; and to uſe all poſſible Diligence to put their ſeveral Forts in a Poſture of Defence. He delivered out Commiſſions for raiſing Men, and immediately after his Coronation, called a Convention of the States of the Kingdom.

In this Aſſembly, to prevent all Doubts, he cauſed his Title to be examined, and, by a ſolemn Act, was acknowledged to

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be the True and Rightful King of *Portugal*, as descended by the Princess his Mother, from the Infant *Edward*, Son to King *Emanuel*, to the Exclusion of the King of *Spain*, who was descended from the same King by a Daughter, who farther was, by the Fundamental Laws of the Kingdom, disabled, by being married to a Foreign Prince.

He declared to this General Assembly of the States, that he would content himself with his Patrimonial Estate, for the support of his Houshold, and would reserve the Royal Revenue for the Necessities of the Kingdom, and to make the People relish the sweetness of his Government, he abolished all Imposts, which the

Spa-

Spaniards had laid on them.

He filled all the moſt conſiderable Poſts and Employs in the State with thoſe Conſpirators which had ſhewn the greateſt Ardour in this Revolution. *Pinto* had no ſhare in this Promotion, the Prince not thinking his Authority well enough ſettled to place one of his Domeſticks of a mean Extraction, in any principal Place. Notwithſtanding this, his Power with the King and People was not leſs; and without the Title of a Miniſter, or Secretary of State, he performed the Office, by the great Confidence the King had in him.

Having thus given all the good Orders imaginable, within the Kingdom, he bent his Thoughts

next to Foreign Princes. He diſpatched able Embaſſadors to procure himſelf to be owned, to make Alliances, and raiſe new Enemies to the Houſe of *Auſtria*. He made a League Offenſive and Defenſive with the *Hollanders* and *Catalonians*, and obtained aſſurance of the Protection of *France*. The King of *Spain* diſcovered his Weakneſs, by attempting nothing conſiderable on the Frontiers of *Portugal* all the Campaign, probably becauſe the Revolt in *Catalonia* employed all his Strength. All his Attempts were unſucceſsful, and his Troops ſtill came off with diſadvantage. Some time after News came that *Goa*, and other Places, under the Dominion of the *Portugueſe* in the *Indies*, *Africk*,

Africk, and *Peru*, had followed the general Revolution of the Kingdom; every thing ſeemed to promiſe the King of *Portugal* a *Series* of Succeſs, and a Kingdom quiet at Home, and Victorious abroad. But obſerve the uncertainty of Human Greatneſs, how this Prince, in the midſt of his Proſperities, and the careſſes of Fortune, was upon the Point of periſhing, and loſing at once his Life and Crown by a horrid Conſpiracy, ſilently formed in *Lisbon*, within the Walls of his own Court.

The Archbiſhop of *Braga* was, as I related before, wholly devoted to the Court of *Spain*, and one of their Miniſters in *Portugal*. He plainly ſaw he could never hope

hope to be reſtored till the Spaniſh Government ſhould be reeſtabliſhed; beſides, he was afraid the King, who ſeemed at firſt to have ſome reſpect to his Character, in forbearing to ſeize him with the reſt of the *Spaniſh* Miniſters, might nevertheleſs do it when his Authority was better ſettled. But the moſt potent Motive that put him upon any conſiderable Action, was his Zeal for the Vice-Queen. He could not endure to ſee that Princeſs in Priſon in a place where he thought She had a Right to Reign; but above all, he was exaſperated to be refuſed admittance to her, which was denied him, and divers other Perſons of Quality, when it was found She only made uſe of this

Liberty

Liberty to inſpire Rebellion into thoſe who reſorted to her. This Proceeding ſeemed to him Tyrannical, and an intolerable Hardſhip; and he could not but repreſent to himſelf, that Princeſs every Moment demanding her Liberty from him, as a juſt Return for thoſe Favours he had received from her. Theſe Reflections kindled a Rage in the Breaſt of this Prelate; and made him reſolve to employ all means to expreſs his Gratitude, and Revenge her on her Enemies. And conſidering it would be difficult to ſurprize or corrupt the Guards ſet over her, he reſolved to go directly to the Spring, and by killing the King, to reſtore at once, that Princeſs her Liber-

ty, and her former Authority.

Having concluded on this Design, he applied himself to find means to put his Project in execution as soon as possible, fearing he should not long continue in his Place of President of the Palace, and be oblig'd to retire to *Braga*. He concluded strait, he must take a different Step from that which the King had taken. He never hoped to gain the People, by reason of their natural Hatred to the *Spaniards*; on the other side, the restoring of the King being the Work of the Nobility, it was certain they would never engage in a Conspiracy of this kind, he plainly found he could only apply himself to the Great Men, who were not concerned

cerned in this Revolution, and uneaſie at the Duke of *Braganza's* Fortunes. And therefore having firſt ſecured Protection of the Miniſter of *Spain*, he caſt his Eyes on the Marqueſs of *Villareal*.

He repreſented to that Prince, That *the New King being of a timorous and diffident Temper, would lay hold of all Opportunities to ruin, or at leaſt diminiſh the Greatneſs of his Family, to ſecure the Crown to his own Poſterity.* That *He*, and *the Duke* d' Aveiro, *both of the Blood Royal of* Portugal, *had no Employs conferr'd on them, whilſt all Places of Profit and Truſt in the Kingdom, were given as a Recompence to a parcel of Seditious Fellows.* That *all Men of Honour were concerned to ſee him thus contemptuouſly uſed.* That *he*

must consume his Life in a mean inactivity, and be buried in the Solitude of his Country-Seat. That He ought to consider his High Birth and Fortunes rendred him too Great to be a Subject to so petty a King. That He had lost in the King of Spain, *a Master who had several Kingdoms and Governments in his disposal; and was able to give him an Employment suitable to the Greatness of his Condition.*

Seeing this Discourse made an Impression on the Mind of that Prince: He added, *That he had Order from the Court of* Spain *to promise him the Vice-Royalty of* Portugal, *as the Reward of his Fidelity*: However, this was not in any manner the Intention of that Prelate, who aimed at nothing more than

than the Liberty and Reſtoration of the Dutcheſs of *Mantua*; But more powerful Motives were neceſſary to engage the Marqueſs *de Villareal*. The Conſiderations which the Archbiſhop laid before him, prevailed with him to be the Head of the Conſpiracy, with the Duke of *Camino* his Son.

The Archbiſhop being well aſſured of theſe two Princes, engaged the Grand Inquiſitor, his intimate Friend. This Man was of great Conſequence to the Archbiſhop's Deſign, becauſe with him he brought in all the Officers of the Inquiſition, a Race of Men which have ever been more formidable to Honeſt Men, than Raſcals, and bear a great ſway amongſt the *Portugueſe*. He la-

bour'd to convince him it was his Duty, reminding him of his Oath of Fidelity to the King of *Spain*, which he pretended he ought not to break in favour of a Rebel: Farther he urged, it could not be his Interest to adhere to the New King, since neither of them could hope long to enjoy their Places, under a Prince who conferr'd all Employs on his own Creatures.

He spent some more Months in gaining over more Conspirators: The principal of which were the Commissary *La Cruſada*, the Count *d' Armamar*, Nephew to the Archbishop; the Count *de Ballerais*, *Dom Auguſtin Emanuel*, *Antonio Correa*, the same Commissary of *Vaſconcellos*, whom *Menezes* had

had given divers Stabs on the breaking out of the Plot; *Lorenzo Pidez Carrable*, Keeper of the Royal Treasury, all Creatures of the *Spaniards*, to whom they owed their Places and Fortunes, which they could not hope to retain long, without the return of the *Spanish* Government.

The *Jews*, who are very numerous at *Lisbon*, and live there, by making an outward shew of the Christian Religion, had a share in this Conspiracy. The King had lately refused very considerable Sums, which they had offer'd him to put a stop to the Proceedings of the Inquisition, and to obtain a Permission for the publick Profession of their Religion. The Archbishop craf-

tily made use of their Resentment to engage them in this Enterprize. He had private Conferences with several of the Chiefs of the Party, who dreaded to think they had thus unseasonably declared themselves; and by this means exposed themselves to the Severities of the Inquisition.

This Crafty Prelate improv'd the Confusion they were in to his Advantage, and immediately assur'd them of his Protection with the Grand Inquisitor, whom they all knew to be at his Devotion. In the next place, he endeavour'd to raise a Jealousie, insinuating, That a Prince who affected Bigotry, would certainly drive them out of *Portugal*, and promised them Liberty of Conscience, and

a Synagogue in the Kingdom, if they would contribute to the Reſtoration of the late Government.

So violent was the Paſſion of the Archbiſhop, he did not bluſh to uſe the aſſiſtance of the Enemies of JESUS CHRIST, to dethrone his rightful Prince; and perhaps this was the firſt time the Inquiſition ever acted in concert with the Synagogue.

The Conſpirators, after various Projects, at laſt reſolved on this, which was the ſenſe of the Archbiſhop, and had been agreed between him and the Prime Miniſter of *Spain*: That in the dead of the Night, of the Fifth of *Auguſt*, the *Jews* ſhould ſet Fire to the four Corners of the Palace;

and at the ſame time to ſeveral Houſes in different Parts of the City, to keep the People employ'd in quenching thoſe next their own Dwellings. That the Conſpirators ſhould throw themſelves into the Palace, under Colour of aſſiſting to extinguiſh the Fire; and in the midſt of that Hurry and Confuſion which attends Accidents of this kind, they ſhould thruſt in near the King's Perſon, and ſo ſtab him. That the Duke of *Camino* ſhould, in the mean time, ſecure the Queen, and the young Princes, juſt as the Princeſs of *Mantua* had before been, as Hoſtages for the Surrender of the Citadel. That Preparations ſhould be made to fire thoſe Veſſels which were in Harbour.

bour. That the Archbiſhop, and the Grand Inquiſitor, with all his Officers, ſhould march thro' the City to appeaſe the People, and prevent any Commotion by the dread of the Inquiſition: And that the Marqueſs *de Villareal* ſhould take upon him the Government, till farther Orders ſhould arrive from *Spain*.

But having no Aſſurance the People would declare for them, they needed Troops to ſupport this Action. To this end it was agreed to ſollicit the *Conde* Duke to ſend a conſiderable Fleet on the Coaſts, to be ready to enter the Harbour at the Moment the Conſpiracy ſhould be put in Action. That upon the firſt notice of the Succeſs, he ſhould give Orders

Orders to all the Troops on the Frontiers to march directly to *Lisbon*, to make Head againſt all Oppoſition.

But the Conſpirators found great difficulty in ſettling this neceſſary Correſpondence with the Prime Miniſter. Aſſoon as the King was informed the Vice-Queen had writ to *Madrid*, he had placed ſo ſtrict a Guard on the Frontiers, that no Perſon could go out of the Kingdom without his expreſs Leave; and it was not judged ſafe to corrupt the Guards, for fear they ſhould prove Treacherous, and deliver the Letters up, or diſcloſe the Practices uſed to corrupt them.

At

At length being preſt with the neceſſity of acquainting the *Spaniſh* Miniſter with their Intentions, without which, all the Meaſures they ſhould take would be vain; and doubtful what way to effect this, they caſt their Eyes on a Rich Merchant of *Lisbon*, who was Treaſurer of the *Douane*, who, upon the Account of his great Dealings in ſeveral Parts of *Europe*, had a Permiſſion to write into *Caſtile*. This Man, named *Baeze*, made a Publick Profeſſion of the Chriſtian Religion, but was one of thoſe whom the *Portugueſe* call New Chriſtians, who are ſuſpected to obſerve in Private the *Jewiſh* Rites. They offer'd him a very great Sum of Money to engage in this Affair.

This

This joyn'd with the Importunity of the *Jews*, who were in the secret of this Conspiracy, determined him, he accepted their Offers, and undertook to have their Letters deliver'd to the *Conde* Duke *d' Olivarez*.

He addressed his Packet to the Marquess *d' Aiamonte*, Governor of the first Frontier Place in *Spain*, not doubting they were safe as soon as out of the Dominion of *Portugal*.

This Marquess, who had a private Interest in the Affairs of *Portugal*, being nearly Allied to the Queen, surprized to find Letters with the great Seal of the Inquisition affixed to them, and addressed to the First Minister of *Spain*, instantly open'd them, fearing they might con-

contain ſome Particulars of his Private Correſpondence with the King and Queen of *Portugal*, notwithſtanding the late Revolution, but found in them, to his no ſmall Amazement, the Project and Plan of a Conſpiracy, which was ripe for Execution, and aimed to deſtroy him and the whole Royal Family.

He ſent the Packet back to the King of *Portugal*. His ſurprize was unſpeakable, to find, upon opening the Letters, that Princes nearly Allied to him, an Archbiſhop, and ſeveral of the Chief Men in his Court, who ſhewed the greateſt Joy at his Elevation, ſhould ſo ſoon Conſpire to deprive him at once of his Life and Crown.

He

He ſummoned a Council privately, and ſome Days after acted according to the Reſolutions then taken. The Fifth of *Auguſt* was the Day when the Plot was to be put in execution, about Eleven a Clock at Night, the Particulars of which were ſet down in the intercepted Papers. The ſame Day the King ordered all the Troops quarter'd in the Neighbouring Villages, to march into *Lisbon*, under a Pretence of a General Review in the great Court of the Palace. He gave privately, with his own Hand, ſeveral Billets ſealed, to thoſe about him, in whom he moſt confided, with ſtrict Orders not to open them till Noon, and then to execute punctually, the Orders contained in them.

In the next place, taking the Archbiſhop, and the Marquis *de Villareal* into his Cloſet, under pretence of Communicating ſome Buſineſs to them, he ſecured them without noiſe, about Noon, and a Captain of the Guards ſeized on the Duke of *Camino*, in the Great Square. Thoſe who received the Billets, opening them, found Orders to ſeize ſome of the Conſpirators, and commit them to ſuch and ſuch Priſons, and to ſet a Guard on them till farther Orders. Theſe Meaſures were ſo well taken, and ſo punctually executed, that in leſs than an Hours time, the whole Forty ſeven were ſeized, no one having Notice to make his eſcape.

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The noise of this Plot being spread thro' the Town, the People flocked to the Palace in great Crowds, demanding the Traytors to be delivered to them. Tho' the King was pleased to see the Affection of his New Subjects; yet this unusual Concourse made him a little uneasie. He feared these popular Tumults might grow frequent, which he look'd on as no better than Seditious Assemblies. So having thanked the People for their Concern for his Person, and assured them Justice should be done, he ordered the Magistrates to disperse them.

However, lest the Heat of the People should abate, who easily pass from the most violent Fury

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and Rage, to Sentiments of Pity and Compaſſion, this Prince gave out, the Conſpirators had a Deſign to Aſſaſſinate him, and the whole Royal Family, to ſet the City on Fire, and ſeize what eſcaped the Flames as their Plunder: And to prevent all Conſpiracies for the future, and to diſcharge their Vengeance, they had reſolved to People the Town with a Colony of *Spaniards*, and to ſend the Citizens to the Mines in *America*, and bury them alive in that Abyſs, which had ſwallowed a World of People.

In the next place, he appointed Judges out of the Supreme Court of Judicature, for the Tryal of the Conſpirators; to theſe he added, two of the Grandees of the King-

Kingdom, upon the Account of the Archbiſhop of *Braga*, the Marqueſs of *Villareal*, and the Duke of *Caminha*.

The King ordered the Commiſſioners not to make uſe of the Letters which he put into their Hands, if they could Convict the Plotters without them, for fear the Court of *Spain* ſhould come to know by what means they came to fall into his Hands. But there was no need to employ them to diſcover the Truth. *Baeze* contradicted himſelf in almoſt all the Queſtions which were put to him; and this Wretch, on the firſt Torture, confeſs'd his Guilt, and diſcloſed the whole Plan of the Conſpiracy. He owned they had a Deſign to kill

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the King; that the Office of the Inquiſition was full of Arms, and they only waited the *Conde* Duke's Anſwer for the Execution of their Deſigns.

Moſt part of the other Plotters being put to the Queſtion, their Depoſitions were agreeable to thoſe of the *Jew*. The Archbiſhop, the Grand Inquiſitor, the Marquis *de Villareal*, and the Duke of *Camino* confeſſed their Guilt, to avoid the Torture. The Judges condemned the two laſt to be Beheaded, and the reſt to be Hang'd and Quarter'd, and reſerved the Sentence of the Churchmen for the King.

The King ſummoned a Council immediately, and told his Miniſters, he feared the Puniſhment

ment of so many Persons of Rank, tho' they were Guilty, might have bad Consequences. That the chief Conspirators being of several of the first Houses of the Kingdom, their Kindred would be so many secret Enemies of the Government, and the desire to revenge their Death, would be the unhappy source of perpetual Plots. That the Death of Count *Egmont* in *Flanders*, and of the *Guises* in *France*, had both fatal Consequences; that to Pardon some, and inflict a less severe Punishment than Death, would win the Hearts of all Persons, and oblige them, their Relations and Friends, to act by motives of Gratitude. That however his private Opinion was for Mildness, he

he had assembled them to have their sense, and resolved to proceed as they judged best.

The Marquis *de Ferrara* was for having them Executed without delay. He asserted with vehemence, that a Prince on these Occasions, ought to hear nothing but Justice; that Mildness was dangerous, and to pardon Criminals of this kind, would be thought a Weakness in a Prince, proceeding more from a Fear of their powerful Friends, than a natural Goodness: That Impunity would bring the present Government into Contempt, and encourage their Friends to deliver them out of Prison, and possibly to push Matters further. That an Example of Severity was ne-

cessary

ceſſary upon his Acceſſion to the Crown, to deterr others from the like Attempt. That this Offence was not only againſt the King's Perſon, but againſt the State, and a deſign to ſubvert the Government. That he ought to conſider more the Juſtice he owed his People, than his Inclination to Clemency, at a Time when the Preſervation of his Perſon, and the Publick Safety, were inſeparable.

All the Council being of the ſame Opinion, the King yielded, and the Sentence was executed the next Day. The Archbiſhop of *Lisbon* interceeded for the Life of one of his Friends, and ſollicited the Queen, with all the Aſſurance of a Man, who thought no-

nothing could be refuſed to his Services. But the Queen, who underſtood very well the neceſſity of impartial Juſtice, how much a diſtinction of this Nature would exaſperate the Friends of the reſt, only replied, with a Tone which ſhewed her inflexible Reſolution. *My Lord, the greateſt Favour I can grant you, is to forget that you ever ſpoke to me of this Matter.*

The King fearing to draw the Court of *Rome* on him, and being willing to make uſe of the good Graces of the Holy Father, that he might own him as King, changed the Puniſhment of the Archbiſhop of *Braga*, and the Grand Inquiſitor, into a perpetual Priſon. The Archbiſhop

died of Grief, because his design had miscarried. The Vice-Queen was delivered to the *Spaniards*; and the first Minister of *Spain* seeing clandestine ways unable to destroy the King of *Portugal*, was resolved to attack him by open force. But this too was still unsuccessful. This Prince kept a considerable number of Troops on his Frontier, commanded by the best Generals, and composed of a great number of Foreign Officers and Voluntiers, whom his Bounty had drawn into his Service. Besides this, he had the dexterity to make Pensioners in the very Council of *Spain*, who served him effectually, and disposed Matters so, that those Generals who were ordered to attack

tack *Portugal*, were never in a Condition to attempt any thing conſiderable to its prejudice. Thus he reigned ſeventeen Years, the Delight of his Subjects, and the Terror of *Spain*. After his Death, the Queen, a Princeſs of Courage and great Skill in the Affairs of Government, gloriouſly kept the Crown and Fortune for her Children. She ſhone with full Splendor on the Throne, during the whole time of her Regency, and ſhewed all thoſe Qualities in their brighteſt Luſtre, which made her one of the moſt Illuſtrious Princeſſes that ever reigned. The Conduct and the Art of Government were her chiefeſt Care, and her conſtant Study. She applied her ſelf with great aſſiduity, to

unmask the ſeveral Characters, and gueſs by the moſt nice and fine outſides, the moſt conceal'd Intentions; and if at any time ſhe happen'd to be deceiv'd, ſhe would trace the ſeveral Steps to find the Original Miſtake. By her extraordinary Diligence ſhe had attain'd to great Skill and Judgment; the *Spaniſh* * Hiſtorians as well as the *Portugueze*, do her the Juſtice to own, ſhe could ſee the naked Hearts of her Courtiers, tho' veiled with the moſt artful Diſſimulation. In

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* *Ad hæc politicas artes, bonos & malos Regiminis dolos, dominationis arcana, humani latibula ingenii non modo intelligere Mulier, ſed & pertractare quoque & provehere tam Naturâ quam Diſciplinâ mirifice inſtructa fuit.* Caetan Paſſar. de Bello Luſitan.

ſhort,

ſhort, where there appear'd any thing Great or Glorious to attempt, ſhe wanted neither Courage to conquer all Difficulties, or Wit to find means to obtain what ſhe deſired; and there was nothing farther to be wiſhed for in this matchleſs Woman, except a more true Notion of real Greatneſs, or higher Motives than Fame and Glory.

The Court of *Spain* thinking the Regency the moſt favourable opportunity to regain their loſt Power in *Portugal*, bent the force of their Arms on that Kingdom. The Penſioners of the late King, in the Councils of *Madrid*, who had hitherto diverted the Storm, were dead, and the Regent had no way left but to prepare for

for War. She obtain'd of the Princes, her Allies, the best Generals, and the most experienced Officers. The weight of Affairs did not make any Impression on her. Her Capacity, Wit, and steady Courage were proof against all Adventures. Nothing but the Throne she fill'd could have ever shewn the great Genius of this Princess, wise in her Counsels, impenetrable in her Designs, rigid and inflexible in maintaining every Point of her just Authority. The People had a great Affection to her Government. Fear and Respect kept the Great Men of the Kingdom in a perfect Submission. Never Troops were in better Condition, or better Disciplin'd; Her Orders were ex-

executed as punctually as if ſhe had been at the Head of her Army in Perſon. Every one knew Offences to the prejudice of the Queen's Affairs were never pardon'd. All Men were diligent in doing their Duty: She would know every thing, read all Diſpatches, and nothing eſcaped her Care and Providence.

To conclude, She put every thing in ſo good Order, in the time of her Regency, that King *Alphonſo*, her Son, upon his entring into the Government, found the Kingdom in a Condition to maintain a War againſt *Spain*, with Advantage, his Generals won great Battels, and ever beat their Enemies; ſo that ſome time after the Abdication of that Prince,

Spain

Spain, wearied with so fruitless and expensive War, was constrained to desire a Peace of *Dom Pedro*, his Brother, now reigning, and own him Rightful King of *Portugal*, and that Crown, independant.

FINIS.

ERRATA.

PAge 4. line pen. dele *then.* p. 6. for *Moguel*, r. *Miguel.* p. 11. after the Crown, insert, *were not Criminal.* p. 16. for *Ozon.* r. *Ozario.*

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